エコエコアザラク 7

SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

●恐怖コミックス●

古賀　新一

新一

わたしは恐怖漫画を描き続けて十九年目ですから、その作品は数知れないでしょう。思い返せば、ストーリーづくりにいつも苦労しました。平和な現代に恐ろしいことなんてそうざらにあるわけがありません。だからヒントを求めて小雨の夜に墓地へ行ったり、古ぼけた神社で一夜を明かすこと度々、さらに睡眠の時もこわい夢を求めて眠ります。友だち（漫画家）は〝よ

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●恐怖コミックス●　古賀　新一

CC-253

★★★★

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SHŌNEN CHAMPION COMICS

ヒヒのアザラク
古賀 新一
第7巻
SHONEN CHAMPION COMICS
〈週刊少年チャンピオン掲載〉

エコエコアザラク
第7巻

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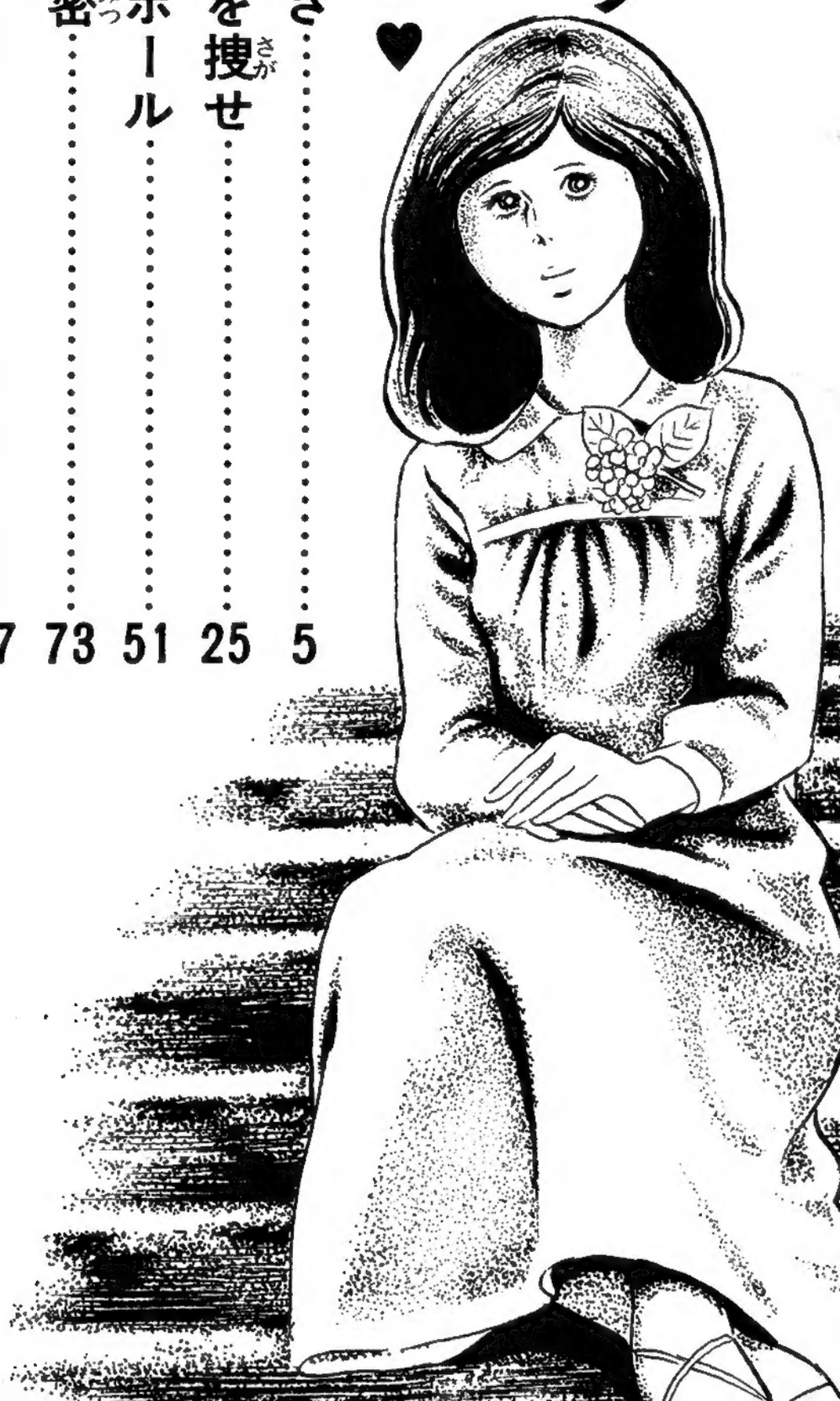

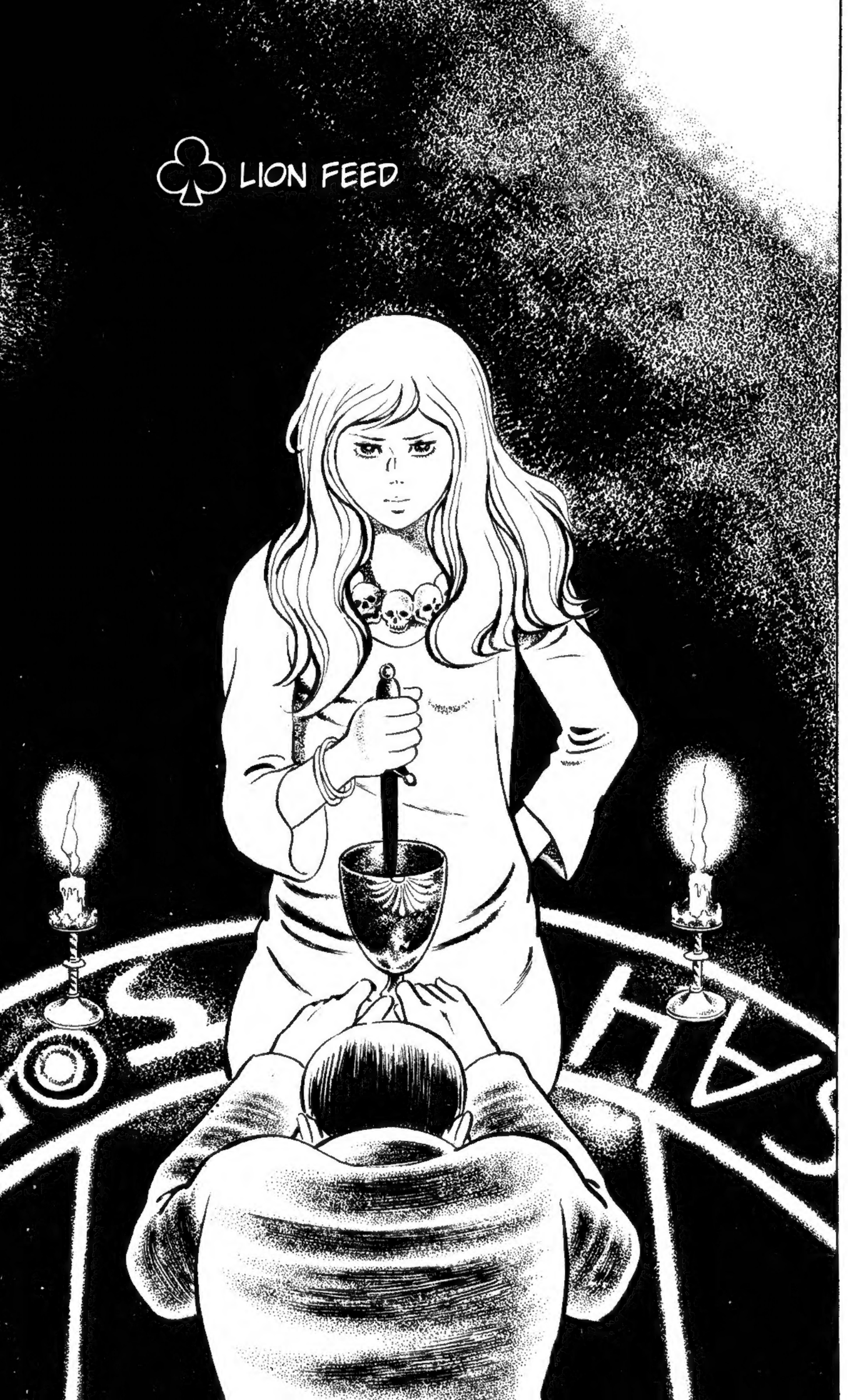
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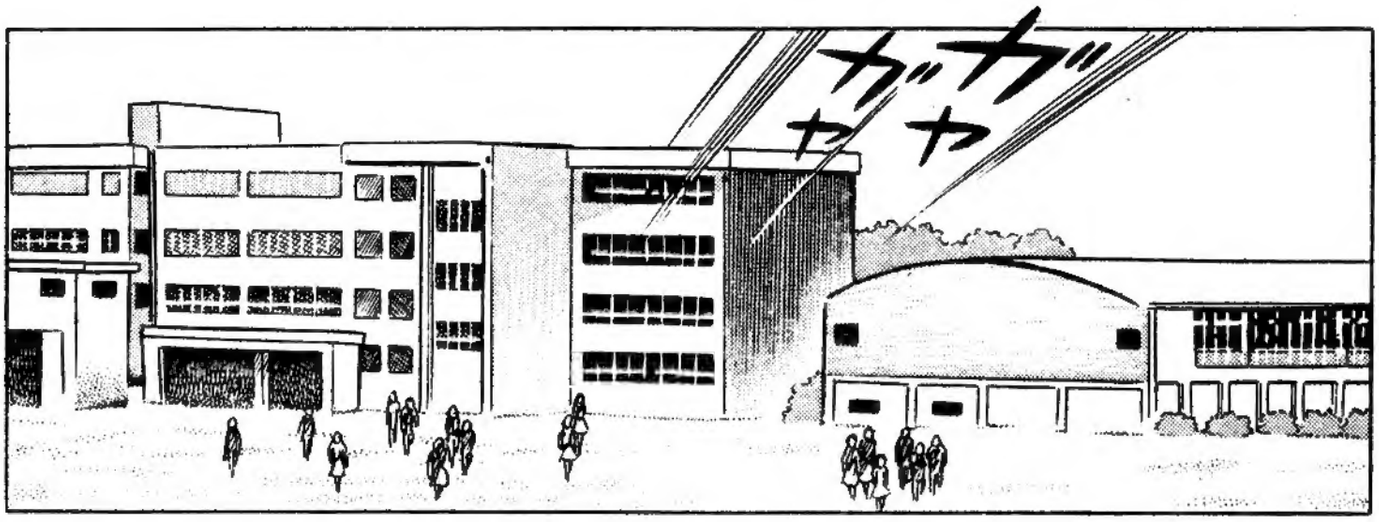
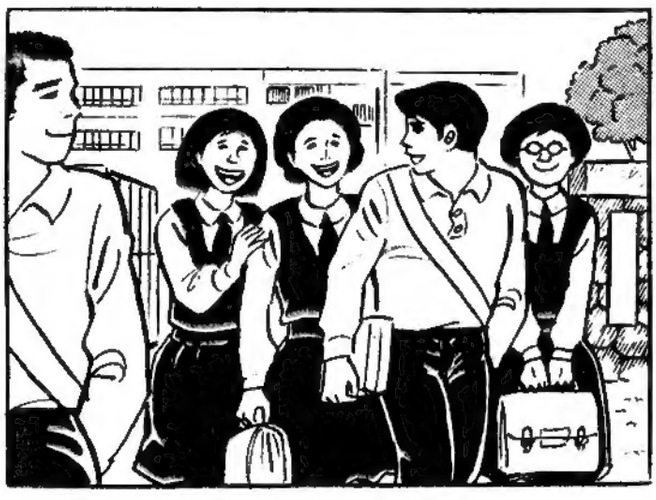
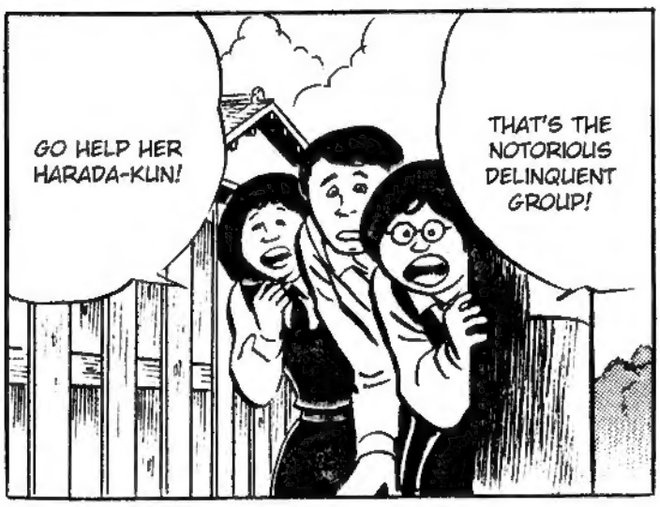
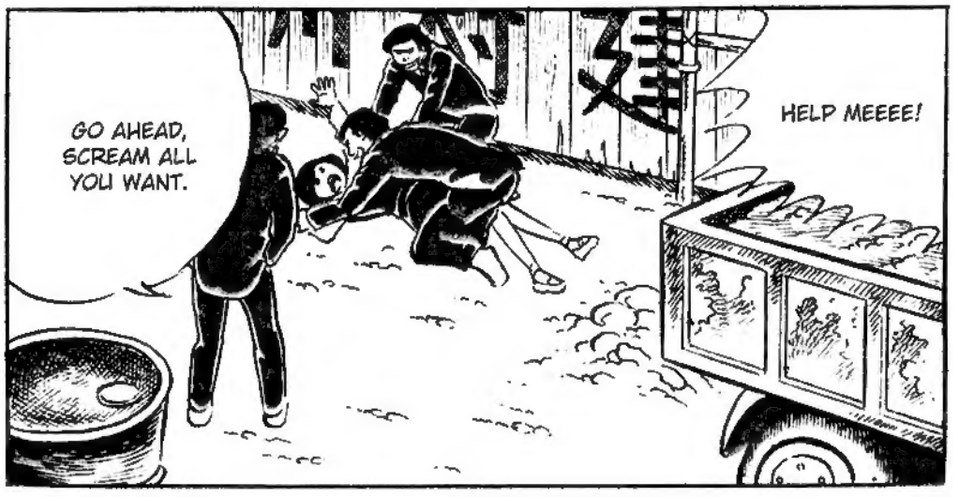

ガヤガヤ

IT'S FINE AIN'T IT, COME ALONG WITH US!
AH!




GO HELP HER HARADA-KUN!
THAT'S THE NOTORIOUS DELINQUENT GROUP!

FUFUFU, YOU'VE A NICE BODY.
PLEASE LET GO OF ME!

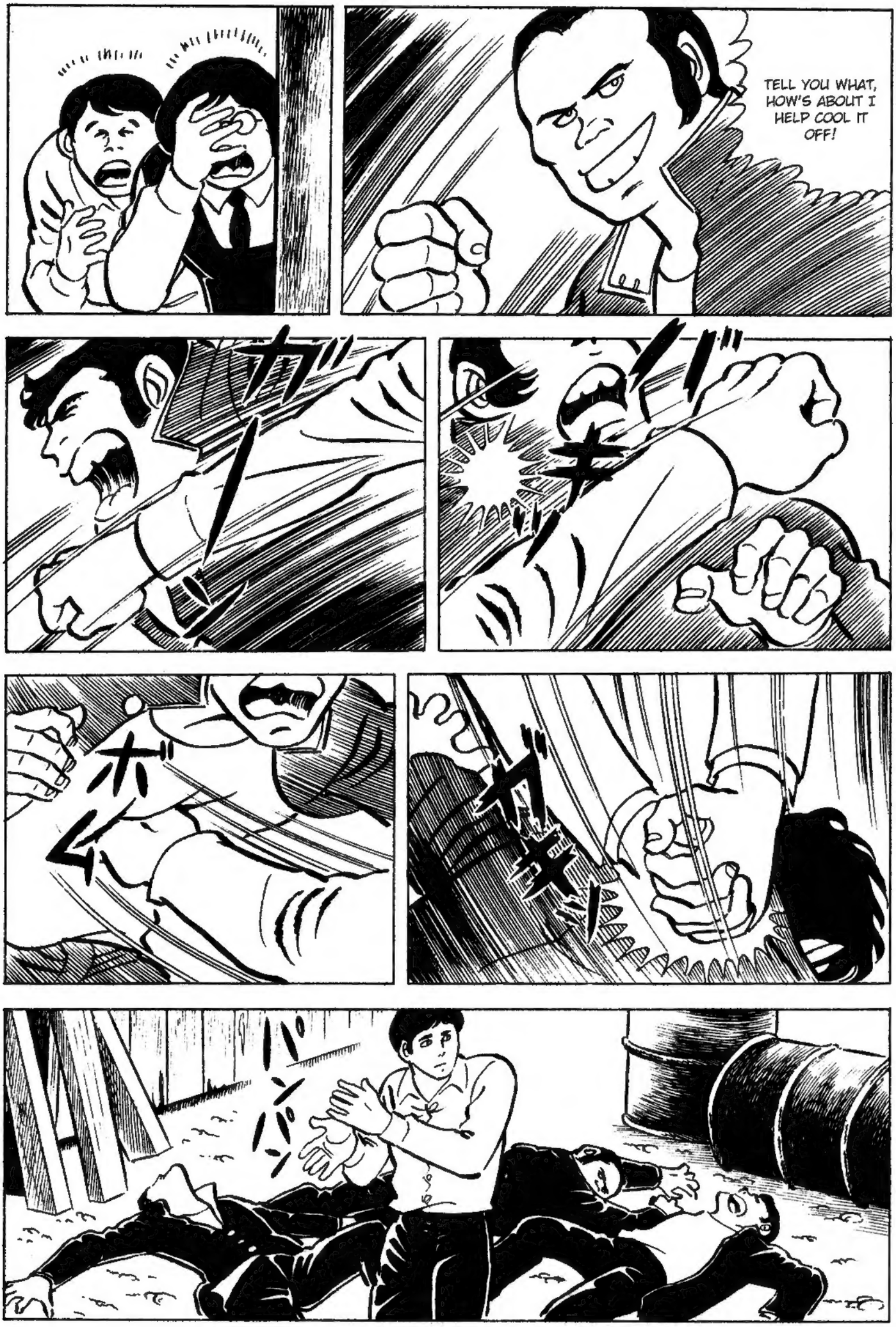

GO AHEAD, SCREAM ALL YOU WANT.
HELP MEEEE!

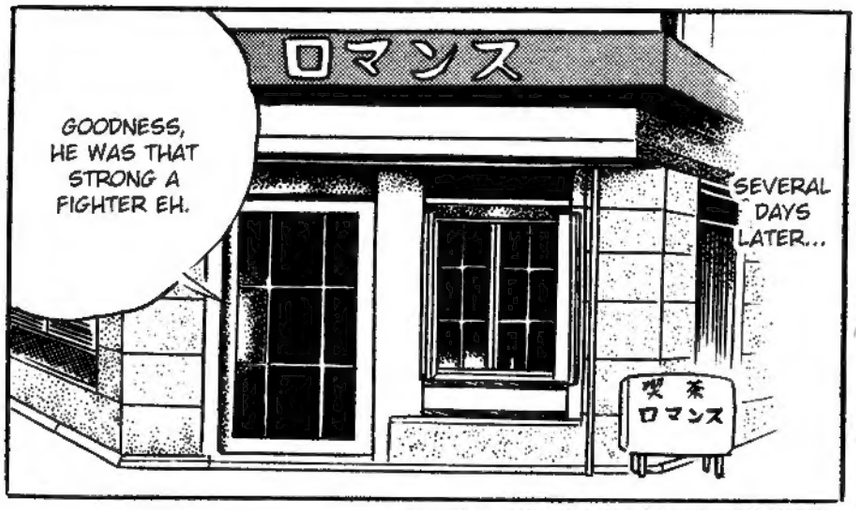
FIGHTS ARE THEIR SPECIALITY! BESIDES, THEY'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL!
D... DON'T KID AROUND!

HM?!
STOP THAT YOU LOT!

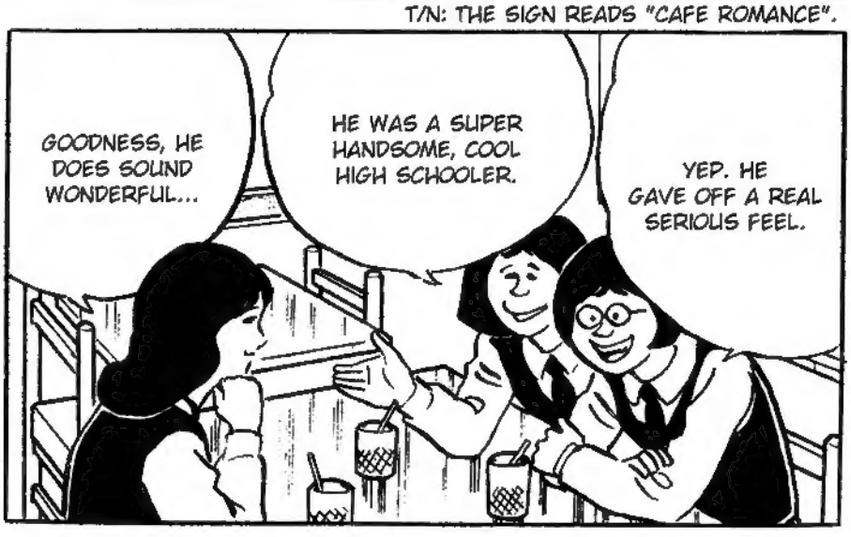
HMPH... LOOKS LIKE A BRIGHT ONE... BET HIS HEAD'S GONE NUTTY FROM TOO MUCH STUDYING.
YOU MUST BE MESSED UP IN THE HEAD TO WANNA TAKE US ON?

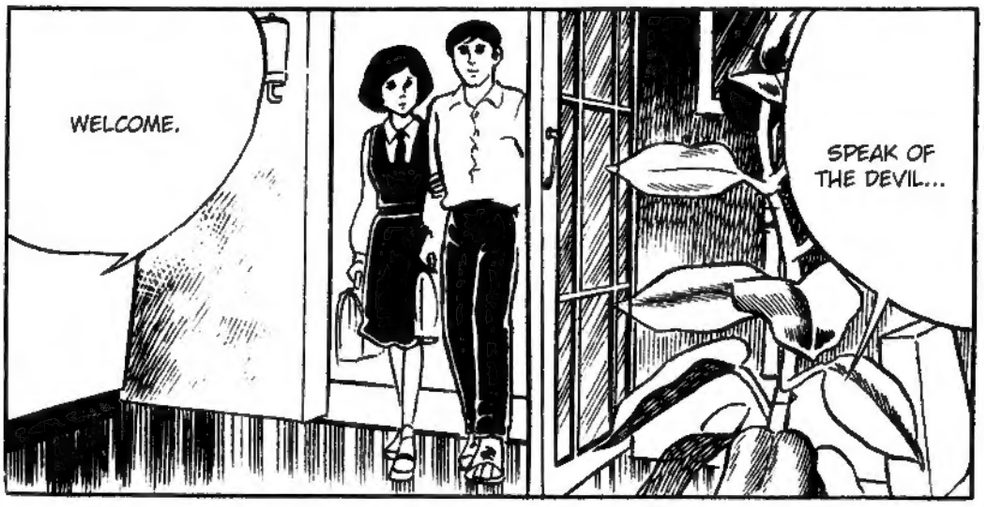
あん
WASSAT, WASSAT?


TELL YOU WHAT, HOW'S ABOUT I HELP COOL IT OFF!

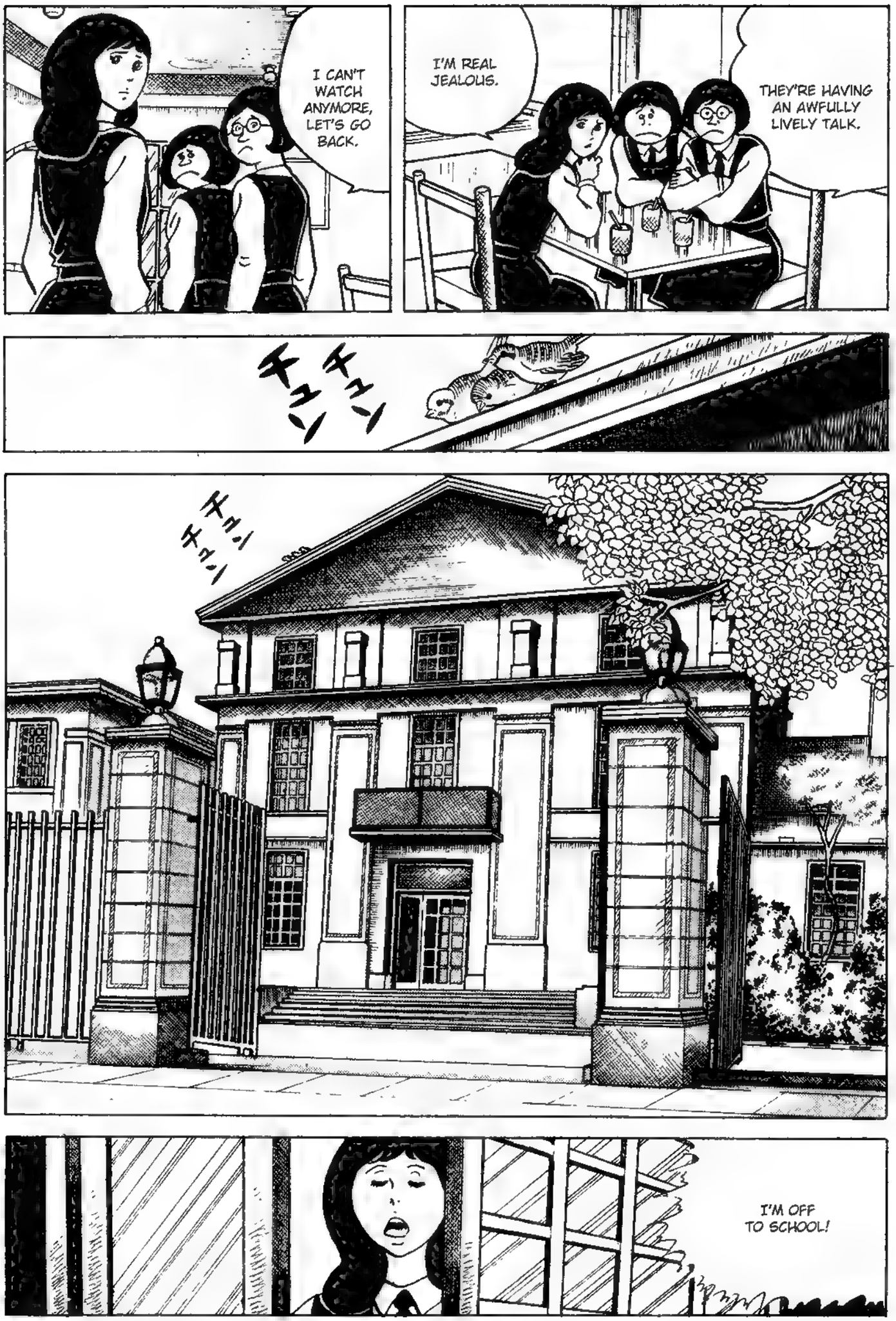


T/N: THE SIGN READS "CAFE ROMANCE".





GEEZ THAT'S ANNOYING!
HOW AMAZING. THEY CERTAINLY GOT ON WELL QUICKLY.
HEY, ISN'T HE WITH THE GIRL WHO HE SAVED THE OTHER DAY?
DIDN'T I LEND YOU SOME MONEY YESTERDAY?
COME ON PLEASE, COULD I HAVE ABOUT 2,000 YEN.
THAT MUCH WON'T MEAN A THING TO HIM!
YOUR DAD'S A BUSINESSMAN, HE MUST BE SUPER LOADED?
THAT TINY AMOUNT? POCKET MONEY WHICH LASTED ME A DAY, AT THAT.
I KNOW THAT. BUT PAPA THINKS HE'S THANKED YOU ENOUGH.
LOOK, IF I HADN'T SAVED YOU BACK THEN...


I CAN'T WATCH ANYMORE, LET'S GO BACK.
I'M REAL JEALOUS.
THEY'RE HAVING AN AWFULLY LIVELY TALK.
キュン キュン
チュン チュン
I'M OFF TO SCHOOL!

FUAAH. SLEEPY, SO SLEEPY.
SHE SHOULD HAVE A FAIR AMOUNT ON HER IF TRUE.
SHE COULD BE A GOOD SOURCE OF MONEY.
MM, SHE LIVES IN A REAL FANCY HOUSE.
LET'S GET THAT GIRL THIS TIME.
I BET IT'D BE WONDERFUL TO JUST SPEND THE WHOLE DAY IN BED ASLEEP.
I REALLY CAN'T BE BOTHERED GOING TO SCHOOL TODAY.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME, I MIGHT HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT..
MMMM, SHE'S CERTAINLY PRETTY.
IF YER THAT SLEEPY HOW ABOUT WE HELP WAKE YOU UP?
HAH!
KYAAAAAAAAH!
WOAH, SHE'S CERTAINLY GOT A NICE BODY!

YOU'VE REAL CUTE LIPS TOO!
STOP THAAAT!
IT... IT'S YOU?!
TH... THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
CHEEKY SHIT!

KOBAYASHI'S TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY...
OUCH!
GYAAAH!
SORRY, SHE'S SO CUTE I JUST PUT SOME POWER IN ALL ON THE SPUR OF THE MOMENT.
O... OI! KOBAYASHI, GO A BIT EASIER OKAY!
ズ"
ズ"
ズ"

FUFUFU...
DAMN IT, I'LL REMEMBER THIS!
YOU'RE BLEEDING...
AH!
THANK YOU, YOU WERE VERY STRONG.
YOU OKAY?
FUFUFU...
DOESN'T SEEM AS IF I'LL EVEN HAVE TO TRY AND WIN HER OVER...
NO. YOU WERE BRAVE AND HELPED ME OUT IN A TOUGH SPOT. I NEED TO SHOW MY THANKS...
HUUUH? THIS INJURY'S NOTHING, I'LL BE FINE.
MY HOUSE IS CLOSE BY, SO WE CAN TREAT YOU THERE.

FORGET THAT TROUBLEMAKER. HE'LL RECOVER SOON.
HE'S STILL OUT OF IT.
OH?
HAH!
HE... HE'S DEAD!
WHAT IS IT?

AAAAARGH!
N... NO WAY! SO I'M A MURDERER?!

EH, YOU WILL?!
I'LL DEAL WITH THIS...

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER.
WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!

THIS NEVER WOULD'VE HAPPENED IF I DIDN'T HELP YOU!

R... RIGHT!
I MEAN THIS ALL HAPPENED BECAUSE OF ME ANYWAY.

THANKFULLY NO ONE SEEMS TO HAVE SEEN THIS.
THERE'S NOT MANY PEOPLE AROUND...
J... JUST WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING TO DO...?
WE'LL MANAGE TO ESCAPE THIS.
I'LL UTILISE MY BLACK MAGIC.
SO LONG AS THE BODY'S NOT FOUND WE'LL BE SAFE. THEREFORE...

BEELZEBUB!
LUCIFER!
ADILON!
LISTEN UP, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE YOU TO LEAVE THIS MAGIC CIRCLE.
SALIMORAIL!
SALIMORAIL!
SALIMORAIL!
グオウ
ガアア

AAAAARGH!
ウウー
ガオ!
NOW, FEAST UPON THE CORPSE, BONES AND ALL!

EH?!
HE... HELP MEEEE?!
GYAAAAH!
HE WASN'T DEAD! HE'D ONLY FAINTED?!
AAAH!
YOU SHOULD HAVE NOTICED BY NOW...?
UFUFUFU. IT'S CARELESS TO SO READILY ACCEPT WHAT YOU'RE TOLD.

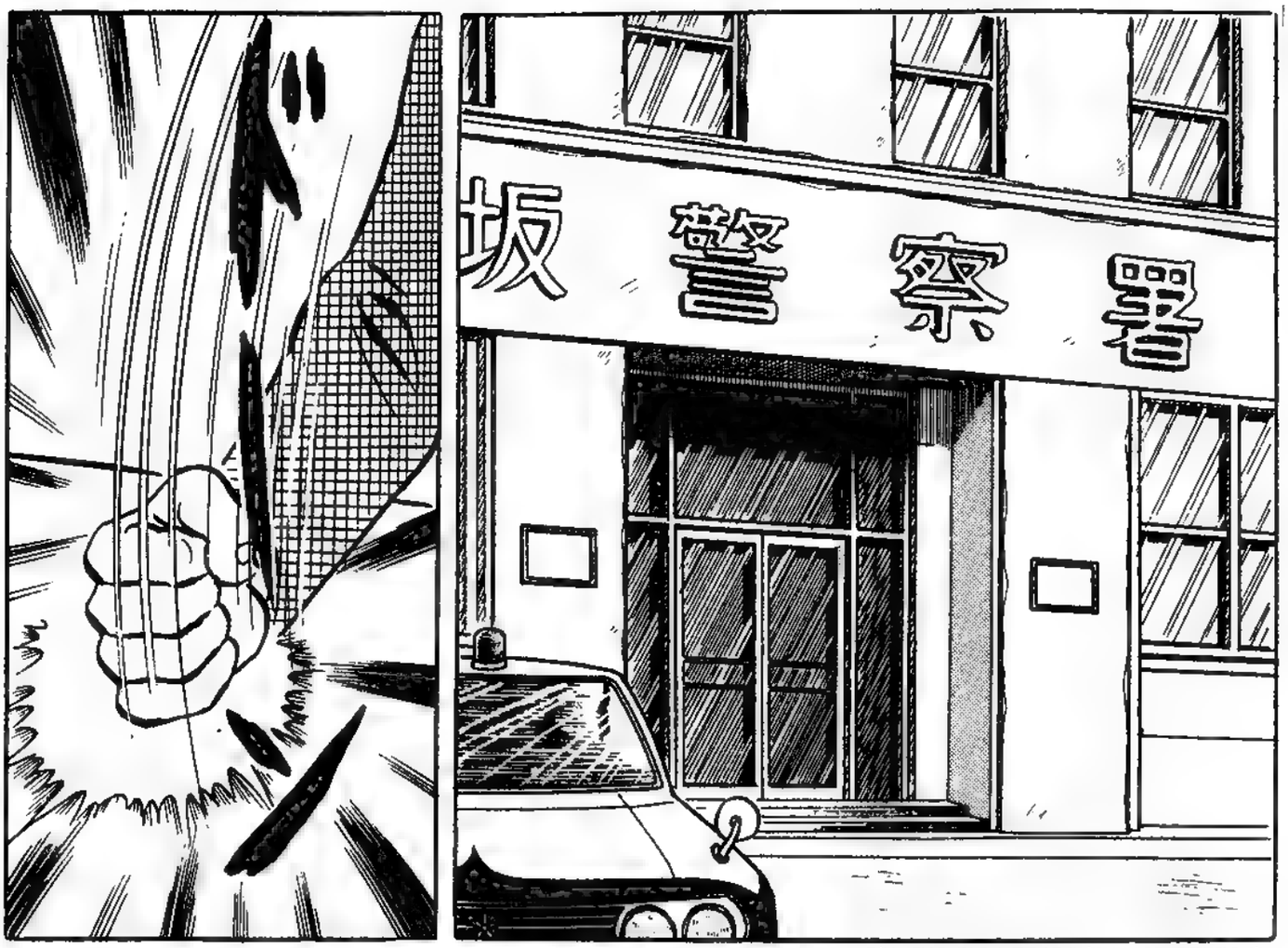
IT'S OBVIOUS, ISN'T IT. LIKE YOUR BAD ACTING COULD TRICK ME.
S... SO THEN FROM THE START YOU WERE...?!

YOU TWO ARE CUT FROM THE SAME CLOTH, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE EATEN TOGETHER!

FOLSIN! ABELTROLY! TEIR! BEELZEBUB!

RAWR!
GARGH!
ARGH!
AHAHAHA!
I'LL LET YOU OFF WITH THAT MUCH.
EKO EKO ZAMERAK!
EKO EKO AZARAK!

♣ FIND THE CORPSE WITH PSYCHIC POWER



T/N: THE SIGN READS "POLICE STATION".

MM... WHAT DOES SHE HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?
YOU WERE IN THE SAME CLASS DURING MIDDLE SCHOOL WEREN'T YOU?
WELL YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS HIGH SCHOOL GIRL, RIGHT?
DON'T PLAY DUMB!
WHAT DOES SHE HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING YOU SAY?!
EEEH?!
YOU KILLED HER DIDN'T YOU?!

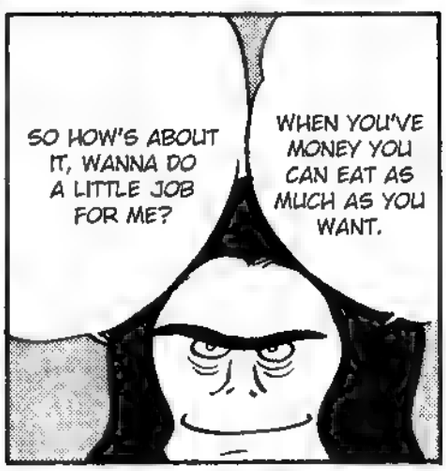
DON'T MESS AROUND, THIS IS ALL A BIG MISUNDER-STANDING...
YOU HAD A THING FOR HER WHILE SHE WOULDN'T GIVE YOU THE TIME OF DAY AND EVENTUALLY YOU JUST LOST YOUR TEMPER.
I KILLED THIS GIRL?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT.
AFTER KILLING HER WHERE DID YOU BURY THE BODY?!
SO ENOUGH ALREADY, JUST CONFESS.
LOOK, THERE ARE WITNESSES WHO SAW YOU FORCE HER INTO YOUR CAR.
UFUFUFU...
STILL, DO WE EVEN KNOW THAT THE GIRL WAS MURDERED?
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO. WE'VE NO EVIDENCE SO WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO RELEASE HIM...
WHAT DO WE DO?
AND THE FAMILY HAD BEEN BLESSED WITH A CHEERY, OBEDIENT GIRL. THERE'S NO WAY SHE WOULD HAVE COMMITTED SUICIDE.
SHE MUST'VE! IT'S BEEN A GOOD MONTH SINCE SHE WENT MISSING.

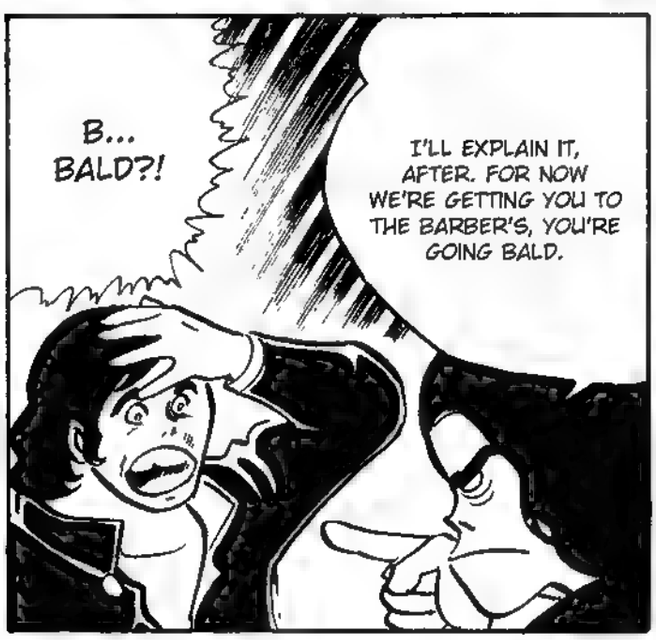
WHAT BAD LUCK.
IT WAS A REAL BLUNDER GETTING CAUGHT BY THE COPS.
まつお
不動産
SHIT. I'M HUNGRY AND I'VE GOT NO MONEY.
MM?
文化会館
二ッ木銀行
美堂
HELLO, HELLO.

T/N: THE SIGN READS "RESTAURANT RENOIR".

I FEEL LIKE MY TONGUE'S GONNA MELT OFF. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD SUCH DELICOUS FOOD!
OH, IT'S THAT GOOD EH. FUFUFU...

YOU'RE SAYING FOR ME TO SNARE WOMEN AND CHEAT THEM OUT OF THEIR MONEY.
GOTCHA.
WITH THOSE LOOKS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE A KILLING.

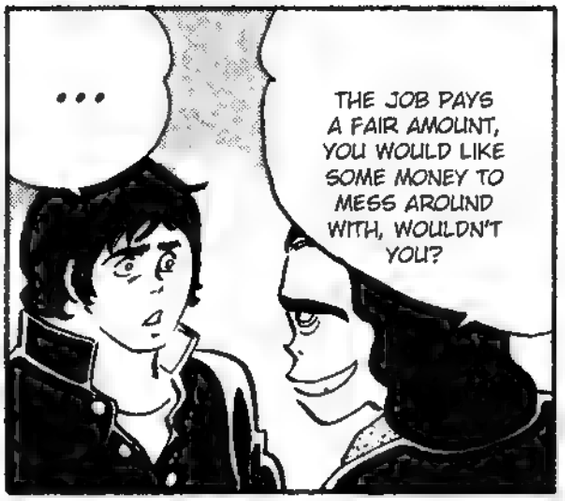

SO HOW'S ABOUT IT, WANNA DO A LITTLE JOB FOR ME?
WHEN YOU'VE MONEY YOU CAN EAT AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.

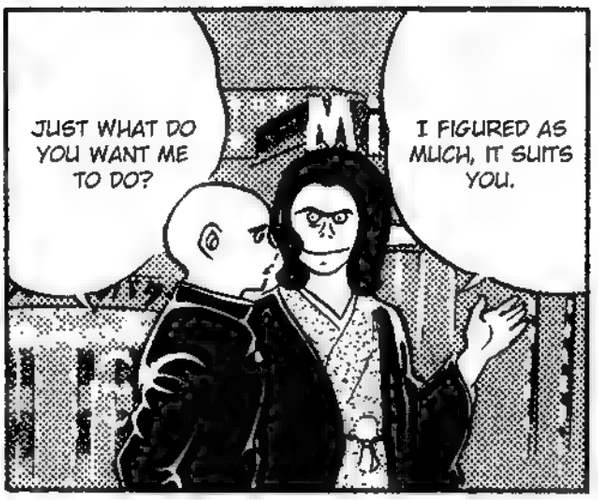

B... BALD?!
I'LL EXPLAIN IT, AFTER. FOR NOW WE'RE GETTING YOU TO THE BARBER'S, YOU'RE GOING BALD.

THEN, JUST WHAT IS THIS JOB?

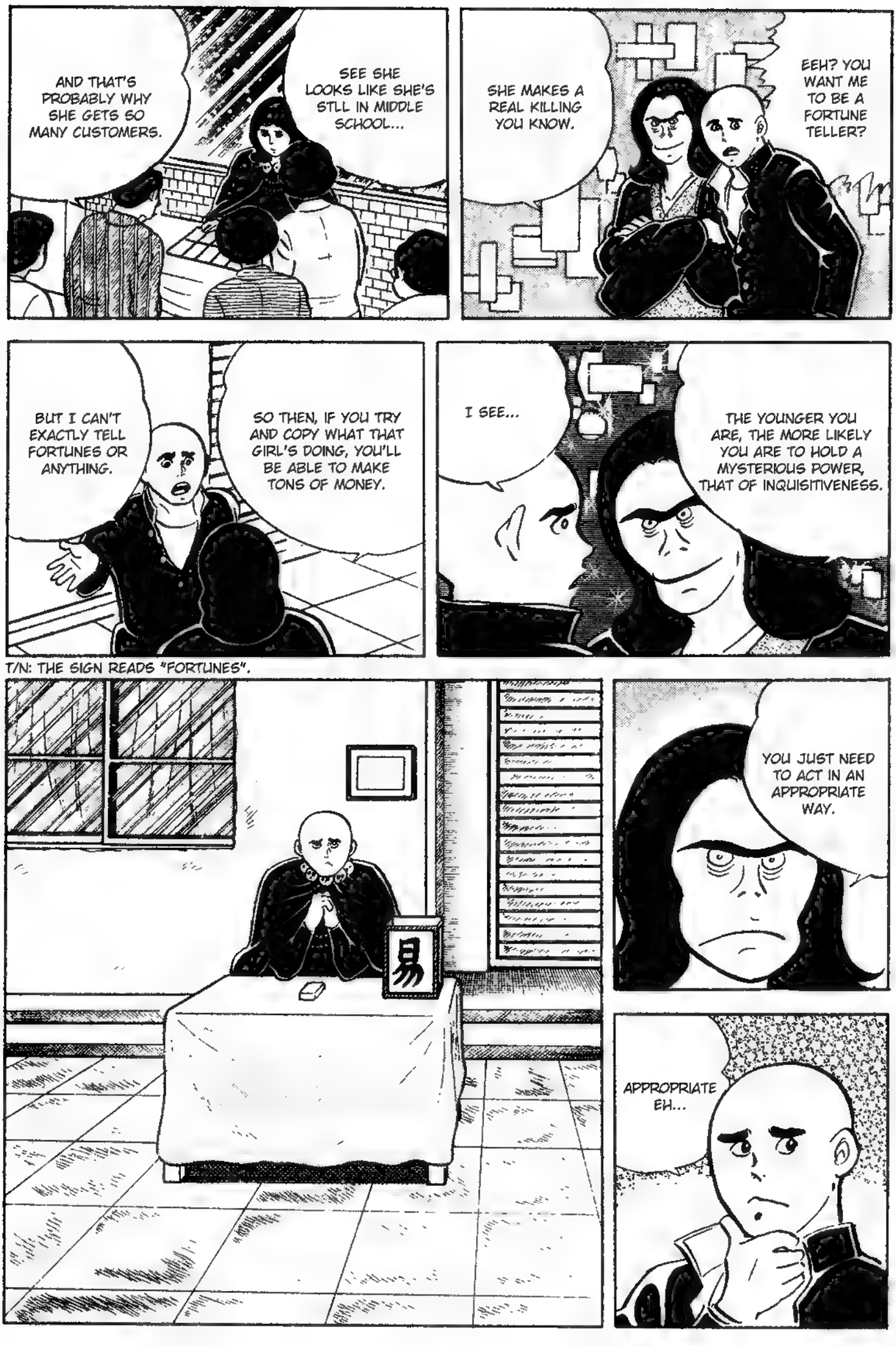
WITH THAT YOUTH YOU MUST'VE DONE ALL SORTS OF BAD THINGS UP TILL NOW.
FUFU. YOU'RE A FUNNY GUY...

NO WAY AM I GONNA DO THAT!
Q... QUIT MESSING AROUND!


...
THE JOB PAYS A FAIR AMOUNT, YOU WOULD LIKE SOME MONEY TO MESS AROUND WITH, WOULDN'T YOU?


JUST WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
I FIGURED AS MUCH, IT SUITS YOU.

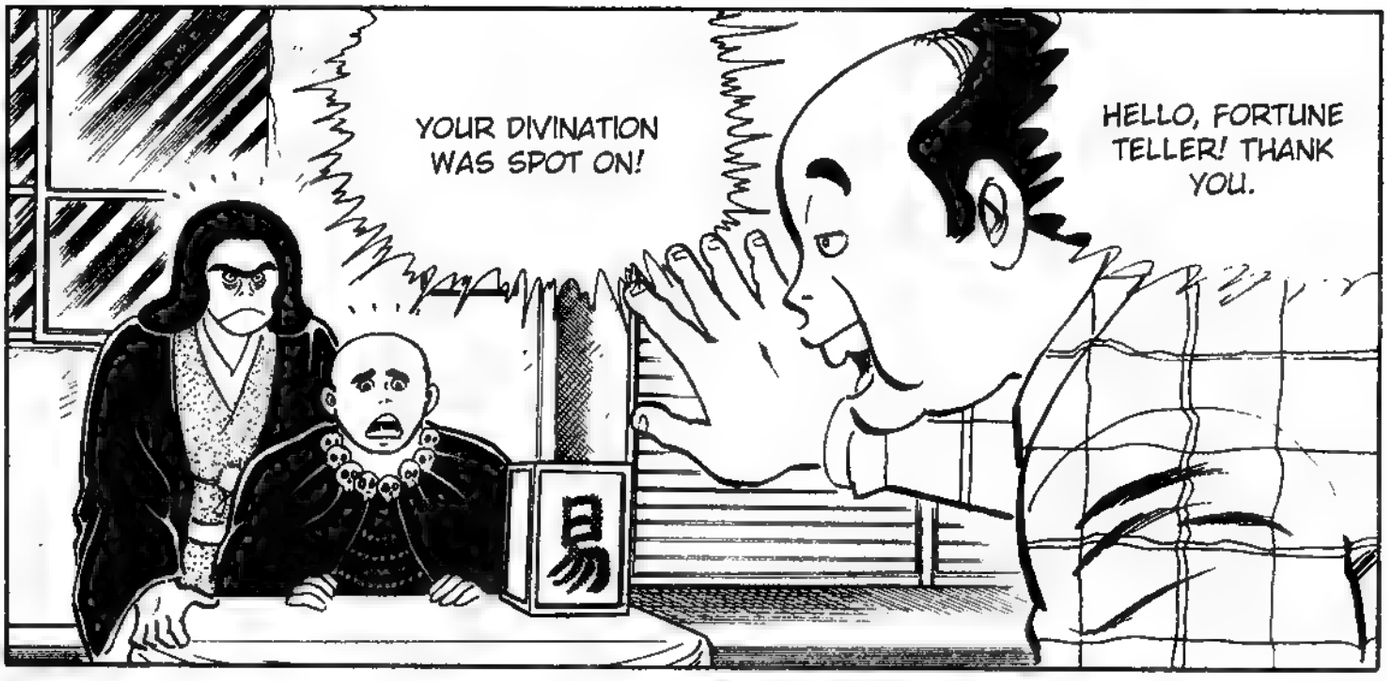
LOOK OVER THERE.

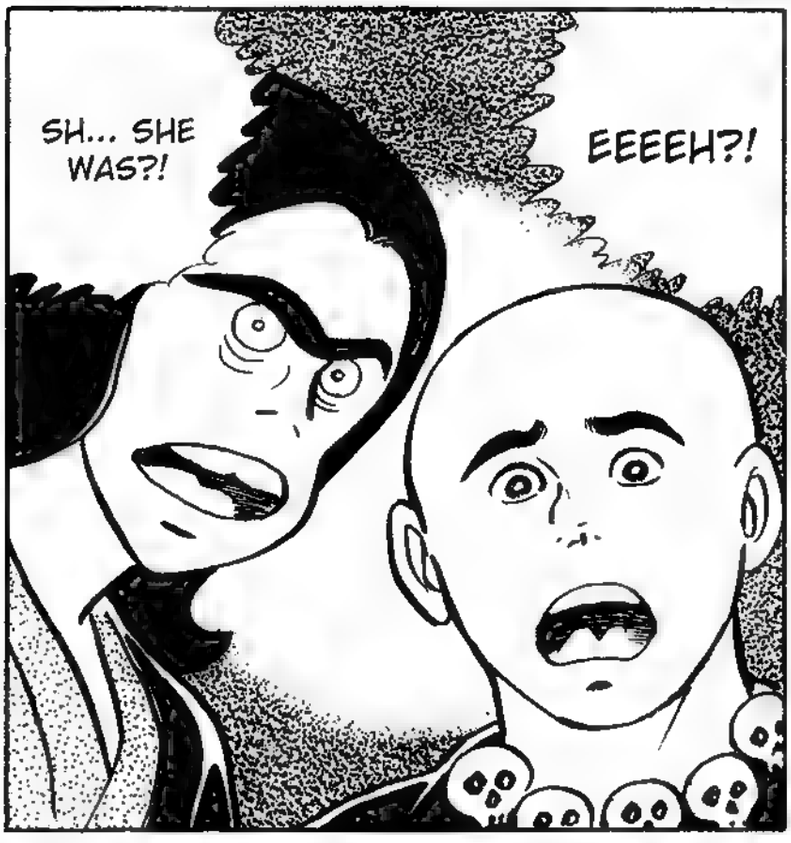

AND THAT'S PROBABLY WHY SHE GETS SO MANY CUSTOMERS.
SEE SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE'S STLL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL...
SHE MAKES A REAL KILLING YOU KNOW.
EEH? YOU WANT ME TO BE A FORTUNE TELLER?
BUT I CAN'T EXACTLY TELL FORTUNES OR ANYTHING.
SO THEN, IF YOU TRY AND COPY WHAT THAT GIRL'S DOING, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE TONS OF MONEY.
I SEE...
THE YOUNGER YOU ARE, THE MORE LIKELY YOU ARE TO HOLD A MYSTERIOUS POWER, THAT OF INQUISITIVENESS.
T/N: THE SIGN READS "FORTUNES".
易
YOU JUST NEED TO ACT IN AN APPROPRIATE WAY.
APPROPRIATE EH...

A BOY WITH MYSTERIOUS PSYCHIC POWERS HAS APPEARED!
HELLO EVERYONE, GATHER AROUND PLEASE!
YOU'VE HAD ME TAKE UP A REAL CRAZY JOB.
HE'LL DEFINITELY BE ABLE TO SHOW YOU TO GOOD FORTUNE.
IF YOU'RE UNEASY ABOUT ANYTHING BE IT A CURSE, FINDING A JOB, MARRIAGE OR LOST ITEMS, YOU SHOULD COME SEE HIM!
ALRIGHT I'M DOING IT, I'M DOING IT!
OI! FORGET THAT ATTITUDE, BE A BIT MORE OF A PERFORMER!
WELL YOU SEE, MY WIFE'S RUN AWAY FROM HOME.
AHEM. WHAT SORT OF MATTER WOULD YOU LIKE DIVINED?
LOOK, YOU'VE GOT A CUSTOMER ALREADY.

HIS WIFE'S# RUN AWAY FROM HOME. BOOORING...
SO I'D LIKE YOU TO DIVINE WHERE SHE IS.
I'VE TRIED RELATIVES AND HER PARENTS, BUT NO LUCK.
YOUR WIFE'S NEARBY PLAYING PACHINKO.
VERY WELL.
WELL WHATEVER, I GUESS I SHOULD GIVE A RESPONSE THAT'LL SATISFY HIM.
HOW'S ABOUT MY FEE THEN.
RIGHT NOW SHE'S ROLLING IN THE BALLS, AND LAUGHING HER HEAD OFF. HAHAHAHA.
PACHINKO?!
WHAT AN ODD FORTUNE TELLER.
HEHEHE.

HELLO THERE, FORTUNE TELLER.
I DROPPED MY PURSE. COULD YOU USE YOUR DIVINATION TO FIND ITS LOCATION.
HIS WIFE HAD RUN AWAY FROM HOME! COULDN'T YOU HAVE COME UP WITH A MORE REASONABLE DIVINATION?!
DUMBASS!
VERY WELL, I'LL GET ON IT RIGHT AWAY...
PLEASE. IT HAD A LOT OF MONEY IN IT.
I'M NOT GETTING ANY DECENT CUSTOMERS.
IF HE KEEPS UP LIKE THIS HE'LL BE EXPOSED AS A FAKE IN NO TIME.
HEEEH. REALLY?!
YOU DIDN'T DROP YOUR PURSE, MA'AM. YOU SIMPLY MISPLACED IT AT HOME. NOW IF YOU'D BE SO KIND.


YOUR DIVINATION WAS SPOT ON!
HELLO, FORTUNE TELLER! THANK YOU.
易


SH... SHE WAS?!
EEEEH?!

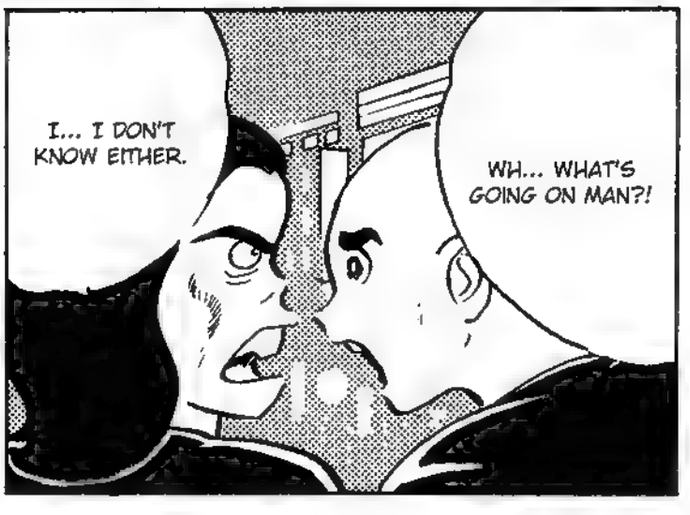
SHE REALLY WAS JUST AT THE PACHINKO PARLOUR.

ガヤガヤガヤ

WELL, YOU KNOW...
HE'S SO YOUNG, BUT HE'S GOT SUCH PSYCHIC POWER.
WOAH, AMAZING.
易

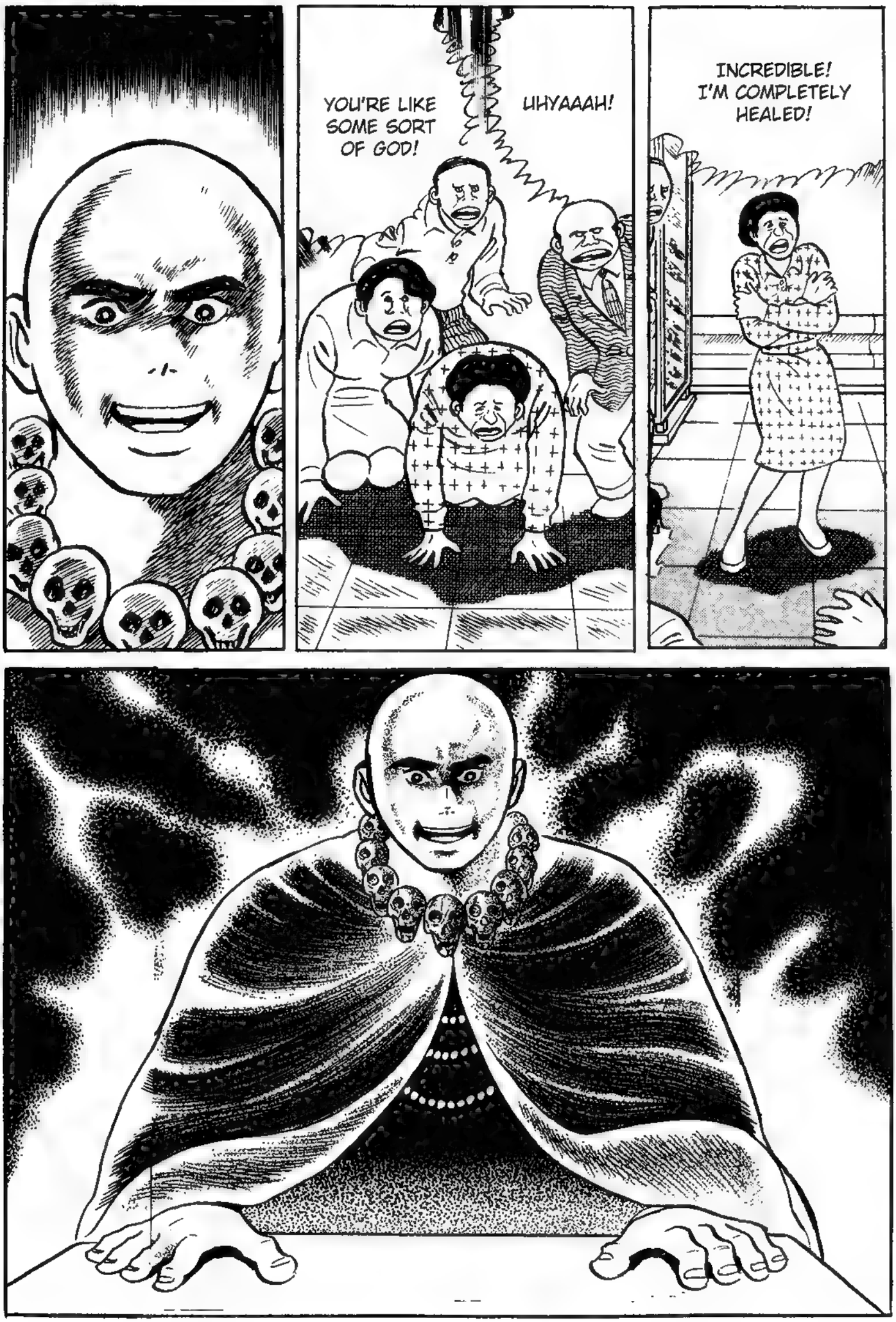
EEH?!
I REALLY HAD JUST MISPLACED MY PURSE AT HOME!
THE FORTUNE TELLER WAS SPOT ON!

WHAT IF YOU REALLY DO HAVE PSYCHIC POWERS?!
I THINK I'VE GOT IT?!


I... I DON'T KNOW EITHER.
WH... WHAT'S GOING ON MAN?!

THIS IS AMAZING. I'VE SOME SORT OF SUPERNATURAL POWER!
I SEE. I MIGHT JUST NOT HAVE REALISED THEM MYSELF.
UFUFU.
ガヤガヤ
MY PSYCHIC POWERS ARE UNLIMITED. NO MATTER THE TROUBLES, I'LL DEFINITELY HELP SOLVE THEM...
NOW COME ONE, COME ALL. DON'T BE SHY. ASK WHATEVER YOU WISH.
易

I SHALL NOW CAST MY MAGIC.
PAIN AND SUCH IS AN EASY MATTER.
SAY, CAN YOU CURE NERVE PAIN? IT'S MAKING LIFE TOO HARD TO BEAR FOR ME...
ルシファー!
LUCIFER!
オリヤル!!
SHAMELOLON!
ARISERION!
MARDRUSHIN!
AAAMEN!
AAAAH!
WELL, HOW DO YOU FEEL, MA'AM?


YOU'RE LIKE SOME SORT OF GOD!
UHYAAAH!
INCREDIBLE! I'M COMPLETELY HEALED!

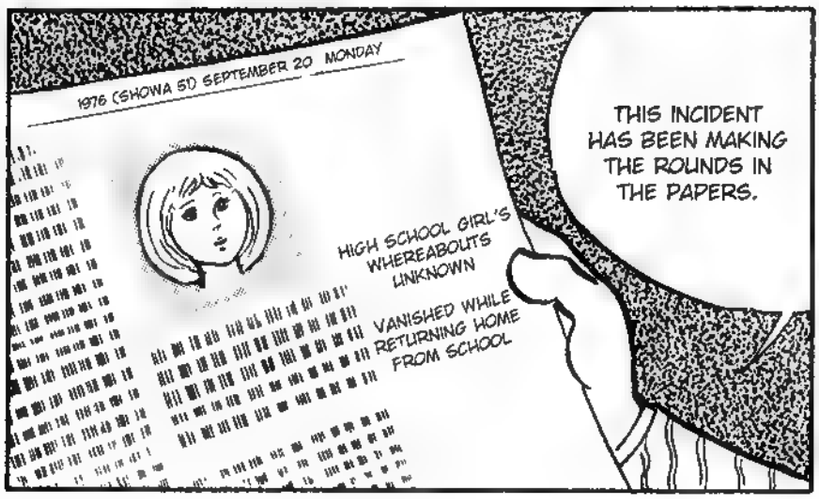
UH?!
EKO EKO AZARAK!
HMH...
EKO EKO ZAMERAK!
HM...
EKO EKO AZARAK!
EKO EKO ZAMERAK!
あっ
AHAHAHA!
HOHO!

YOU TRICKING EVERYONE WITH WHAT YOU'RE DOING!
WH... WHAT'S SO FUNNY?!
HE'S TRICKING US?!
WH... WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
THAT'S ALL JUST COINCIDENCE.
YEAH, AND I DID MANAGE TO FIND MY WIFE WHO'D RUN AWAY.
NO WAY IS THAT TRUE, MY PAIN'S REALLY GONE NOW...

YOU'VE JUST COME TO PESTER US AND STEAL OUR CUSTOMERS, HAVEN'T YOU?!
OI, DON'T GO AROUND MAKING WEIRD ACCUSATIONS LIKE THAT!
WHY DON'T WE HAVE A SHOWDOWN BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU, INFRONT OF THE CROWD?
NOW NOW, IF THE GIRL'S COME LOOKING TO TRY AND START A FIGHT SHE MUST HAVE SOME FAITH IN HER OWN PSYCHIC POWERS.
YOU'RE PRETTY CHEEKY FOR A YOUNG GIRL!
SOUNDS FUN.
ガ ガ
AS YOU WISH.

COULD SOMEONE FROM THE CROWD COME FORTH WITH A QUESTION?
ALRIGHT EVERYONE, THE PAIR HERE WILL TRY AND SHOW THEIR TRUE ABILITY...

IF WE'RE TO HAVE A SHOWDOWN WE'LL NEED A SUITABLY DIFFICULT QUESITON.
WON'T SOMEONE TRY?


1976 (SHOWA 51) SEPTEMBER 20 MONDAY
HIGH SCHOOL GIRL'S WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN
VANISHED WHILE RETURNING HOME FROM SCHOOL
THIS INCIDENT HAS BEEN MAKING THE ROUNDS IN THE PAPERS.

ALRIGHT, I'LL ASK ONE.

CHILD'S PLAY
THAT SHOULD BE INTERESTING.
COULD YOU DIVINE THE LOCATION OF THIS SCHOOL GIRL?
AGRION-DIVINATION-PROGRAM!
WARIKEON!
STEIMRAMENON-EN
EROHAES-
RETORAWA!
ICHIKO-ON!
CLIORIAN!
STAMMUIMANTS!

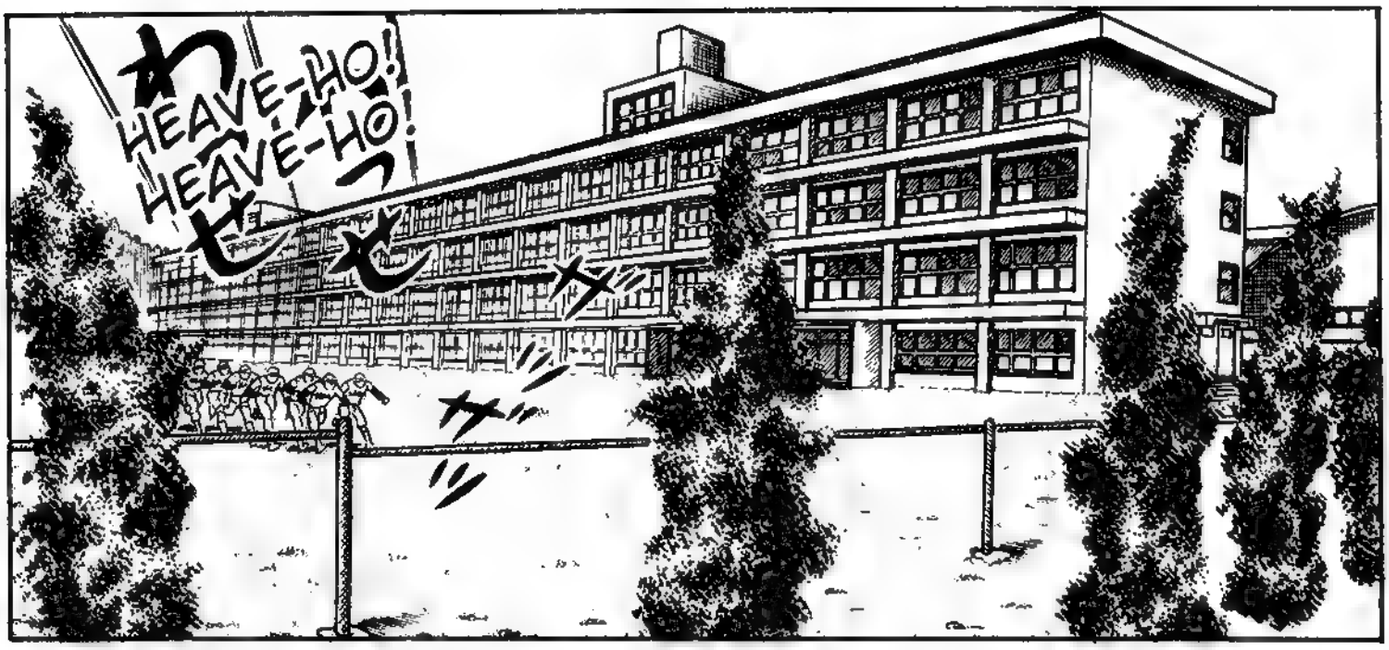
AN APARTMENT?!
EEH?!
AHAHAHA!
I'VE FIGURED IT OUT. THE GIRL WAS LURED TO AN APARTMENT IN K-CITY WHERE SHE'S CURRENTLY HELD CAPTIVE!
EH?!
SEE SHE'S ALREADY GONE FROM THIS WORLD!
YOU'VE MADE A MASSIVE MISTAKE!
AAAAHAHAHAH!
NOW EVERYONE, GO AND FIND IT RIGHT AWAY!
IT WOULD APPEAR THEN THAT YOU'RE THE FRAUD!
HER BODY WAS BURIED IN A COPSE AT THE EDGE OF THE HIGHWAY!

AAAH!
HER CORPSE REALLY IS!
...
AMAZED YET?!
SEE WHAT HAPPENS!
N... NO WAY, I USED MY PSYCHIC POWERS...
THE ONE WHO DID IT WOULD KNOW BEST!
WH... WHAT?!
THAT MAKES YOU THE ONE WHO KILLED AND BURIED HER THEN?

OH NO, I WAS ONLY DOING A LITTLE BIT OF ACTING.
WH... WHAT'RE YOU SAYING, I FOUND THE LADY'S PURSE!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD HAVE THOSE POWERS.
EVERYONE WAS ACTING ACCORDING TO HIS PLANS!
AND I WAS ONLY PRETENDING TO HAVE NERVE PAIN.
MY WIFE BEING AT THE PACHINKO PARLOUR WAS NONSENSE.
WH... WHAT WAS THAT?!
SHIT! THEN YOU WERE ALL WORKING TOGETHER TO TRICK ME?!
SO YOU FINALLY CONFESSED.
B... BASTARD, YOU WERE A DETECTIVE?!
I'M VERY GRATEFUL.
THANKS TO YOU GUYS WE FINALLY MANAGED TO ARREST HIM.

♣エコエコ　　アザラク♣

♣ BLACK MAGIC BASEBALL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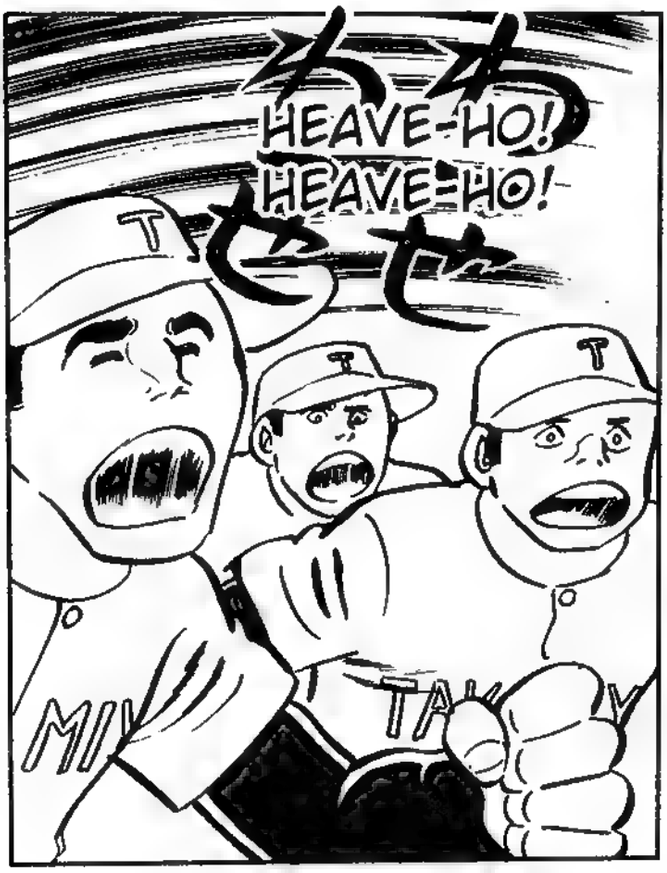
HEAVE-HO!
HEAVE-HO!
せっ
せっ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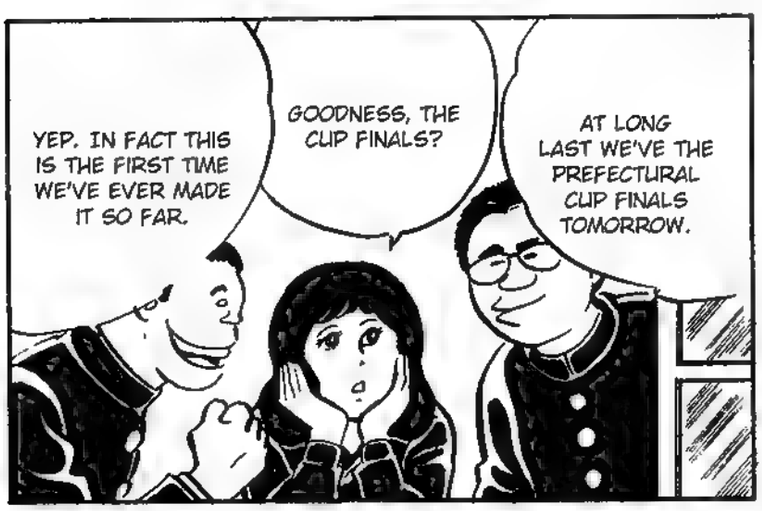
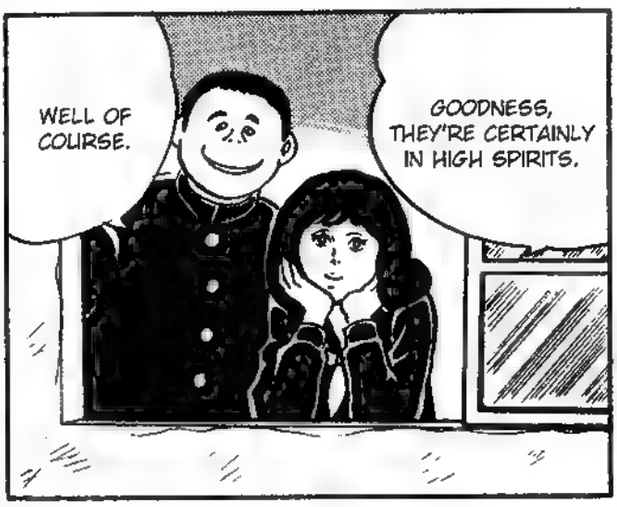
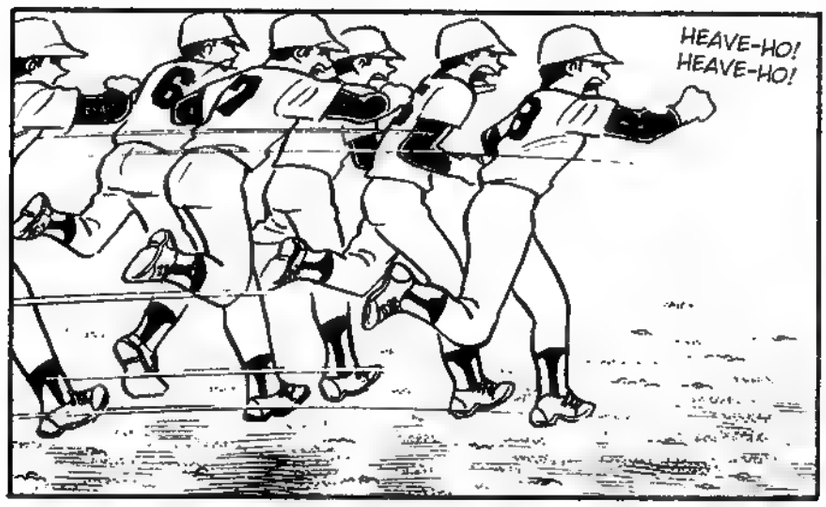
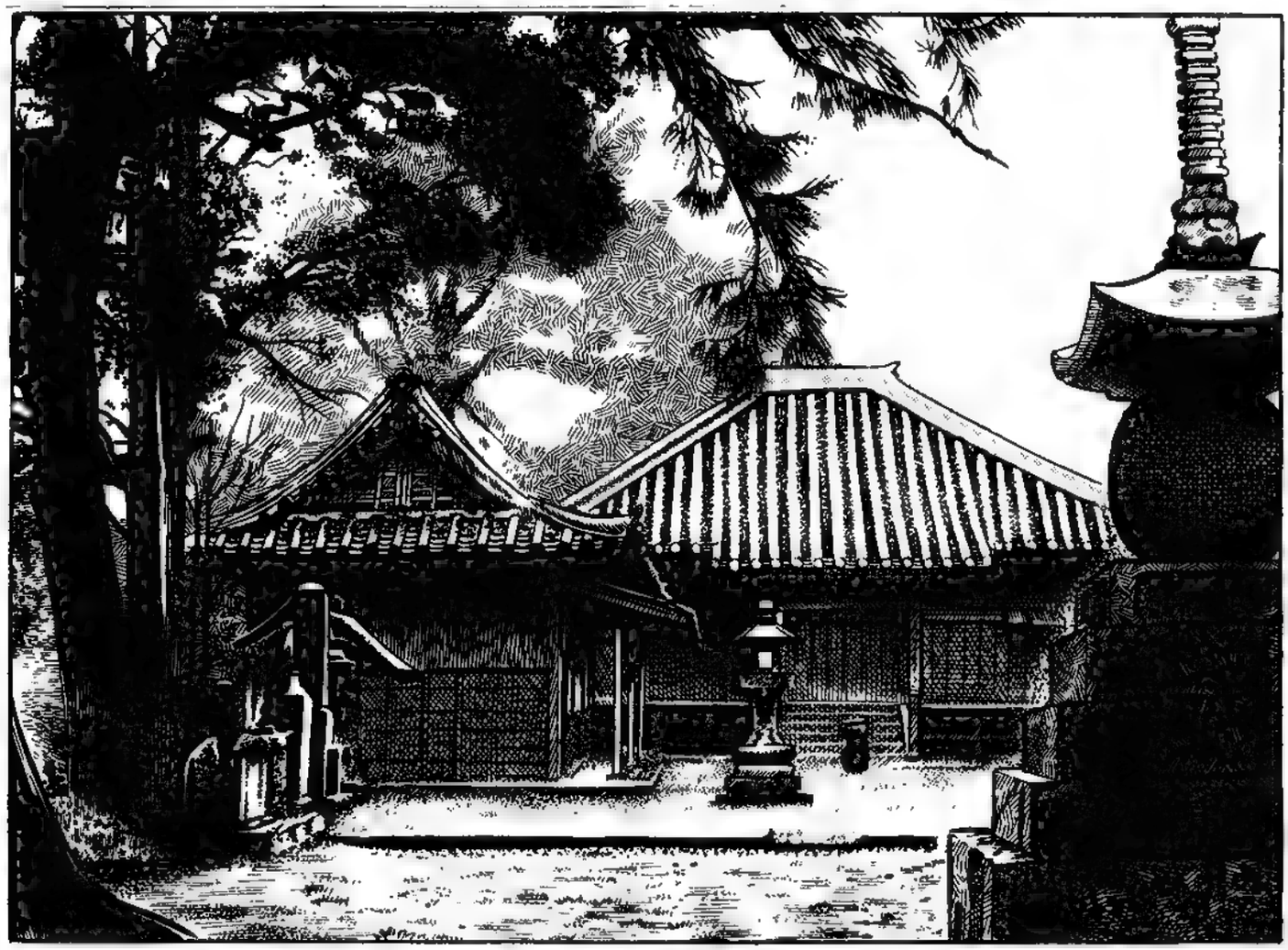
HEAVE-HO!
HEAVE-HO!


YEP. IN FACT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE EVER MADE IT SO FAR.
GOODNESS, THE CUP FINALS?
AT LONG LAST WE'VE THE PREFECTURAL CUP FINALS TOMORROW.


WELL OF COURSE.
GOODNESS, THEY'RE CERTAINLY IN HIGH SPIRITS.


HEAVE-HO!
HEAVE-HO!

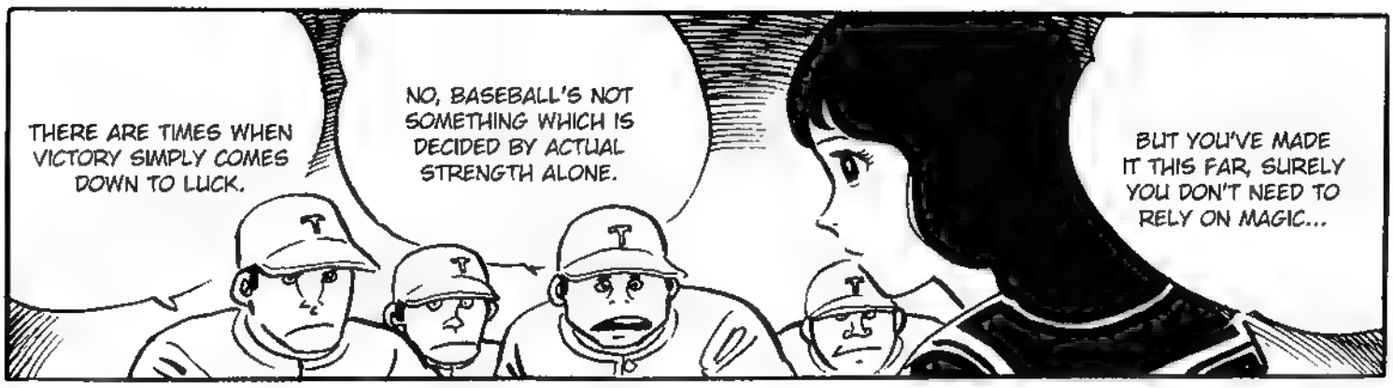
WITH A HUSTLE LIKE THAT, THEY MIGHT JUST WIN.

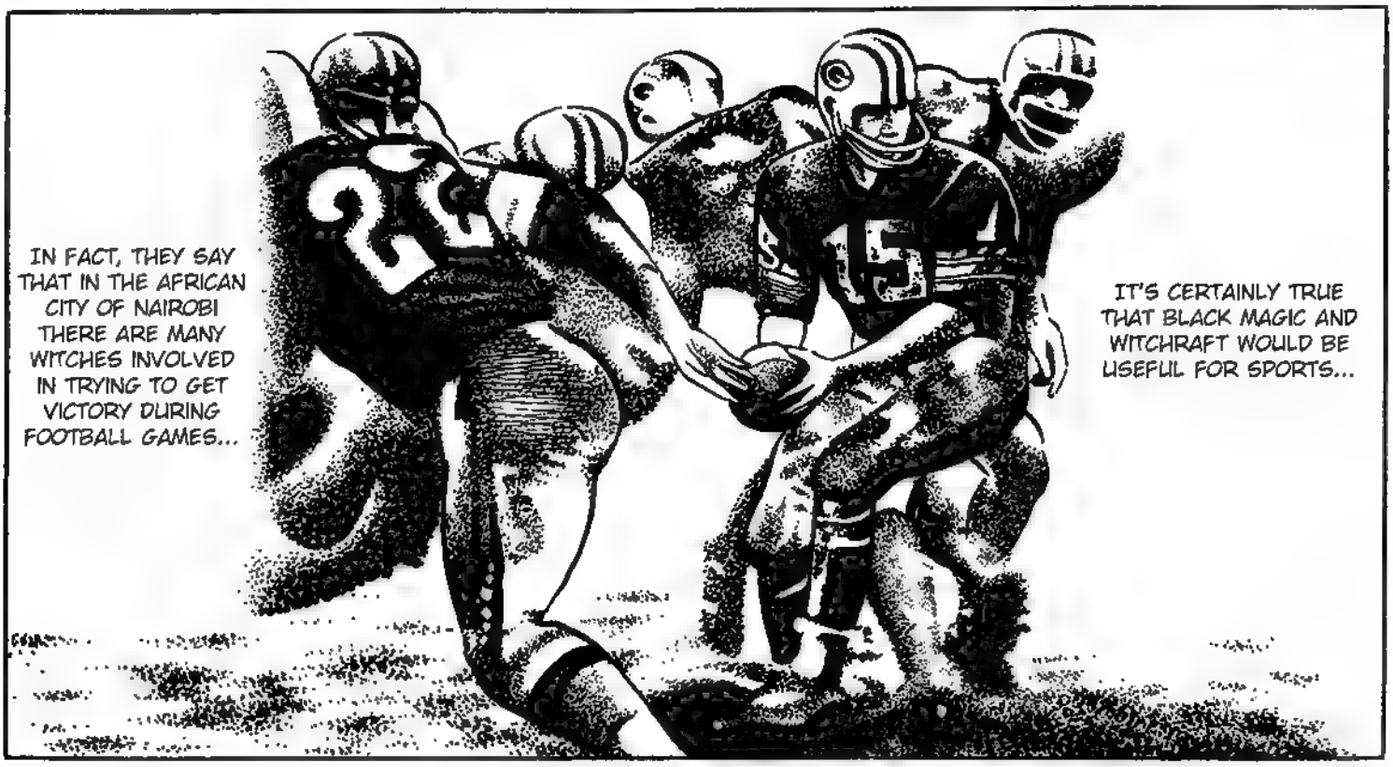


HAH!

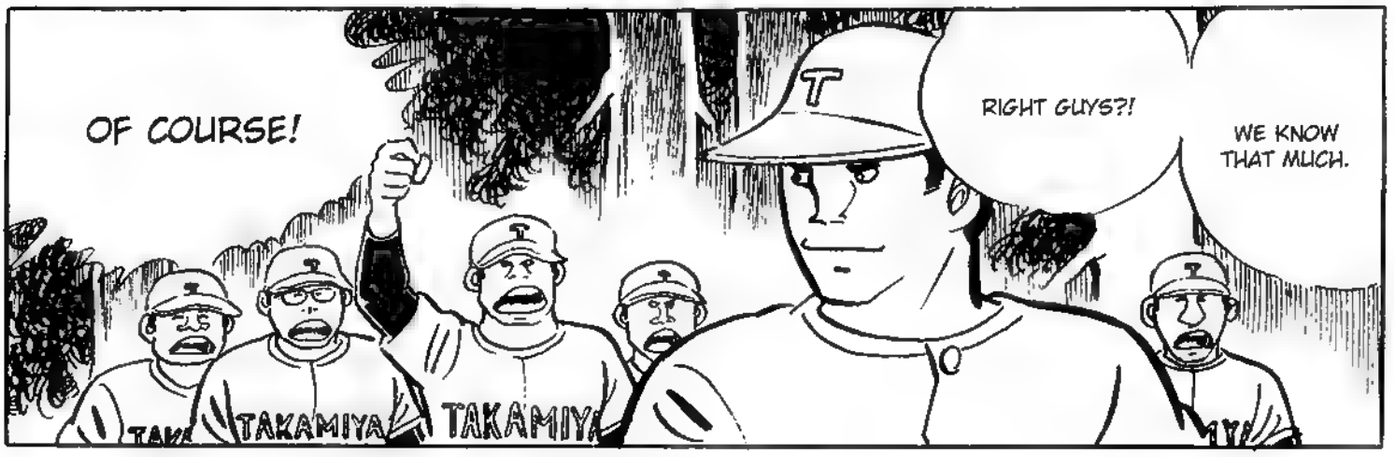
CLEANING DUTY'S MADE ME PRETTY LATE...

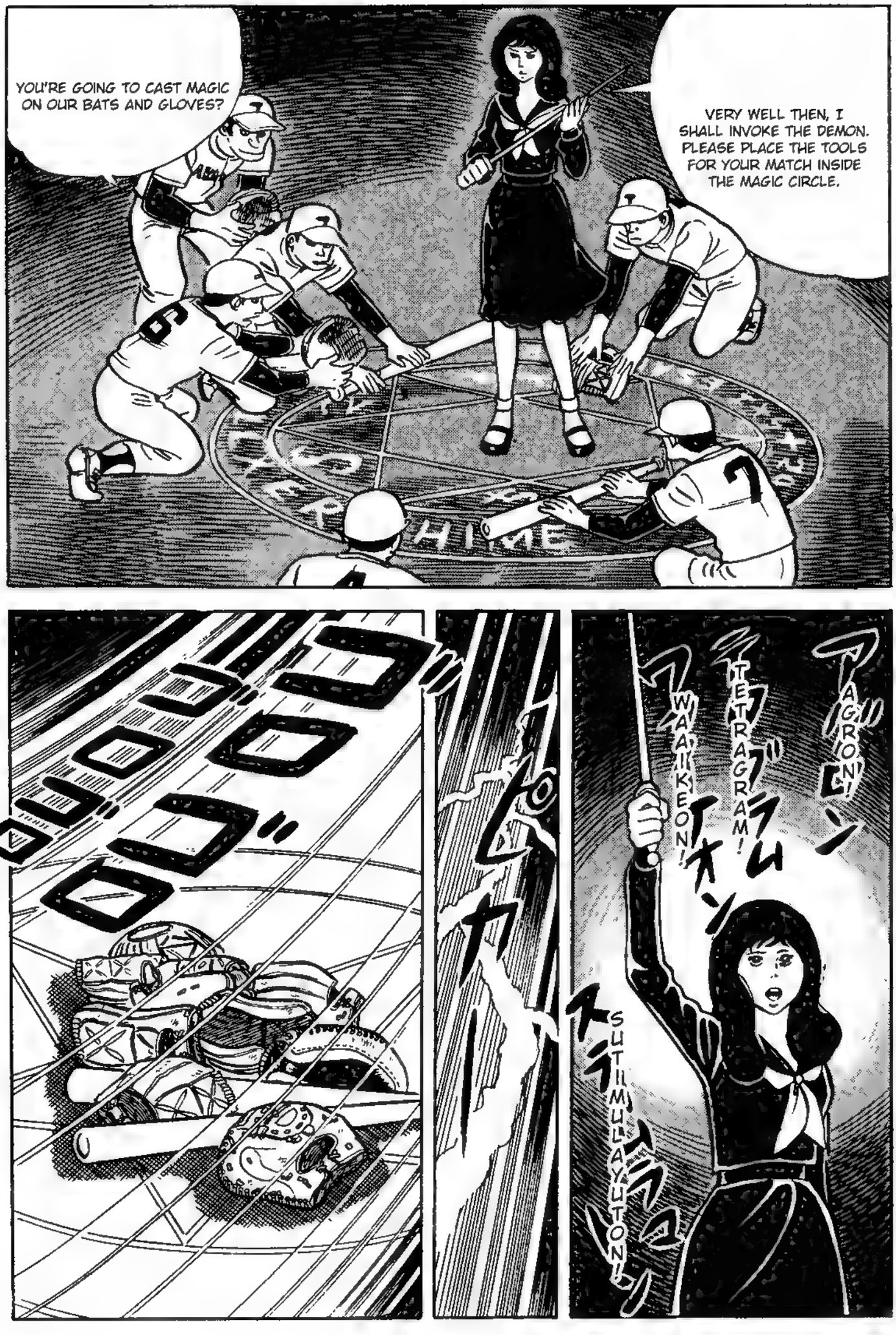
SOMEONE HELP ME!
KYAAAAH!
PLEASE HELP US WITH YOUR MAGIC!
OH, AREN'T YOU THE BASEBALL CLUB?
?
PLEASE HELP US, WE'RE BEGGING YOU HERE KUROI-SAN.
WE WANT TO WIN TOMORROW, NO MATTER WHAT.
THEN YOU'LL HELP US WITH YOUR BLACK MAGIC?
ELSE I CAN'T STAND UP.
SO PLEASE, STOP KNEELING ON THE FLOOR.
I... I GET IT.

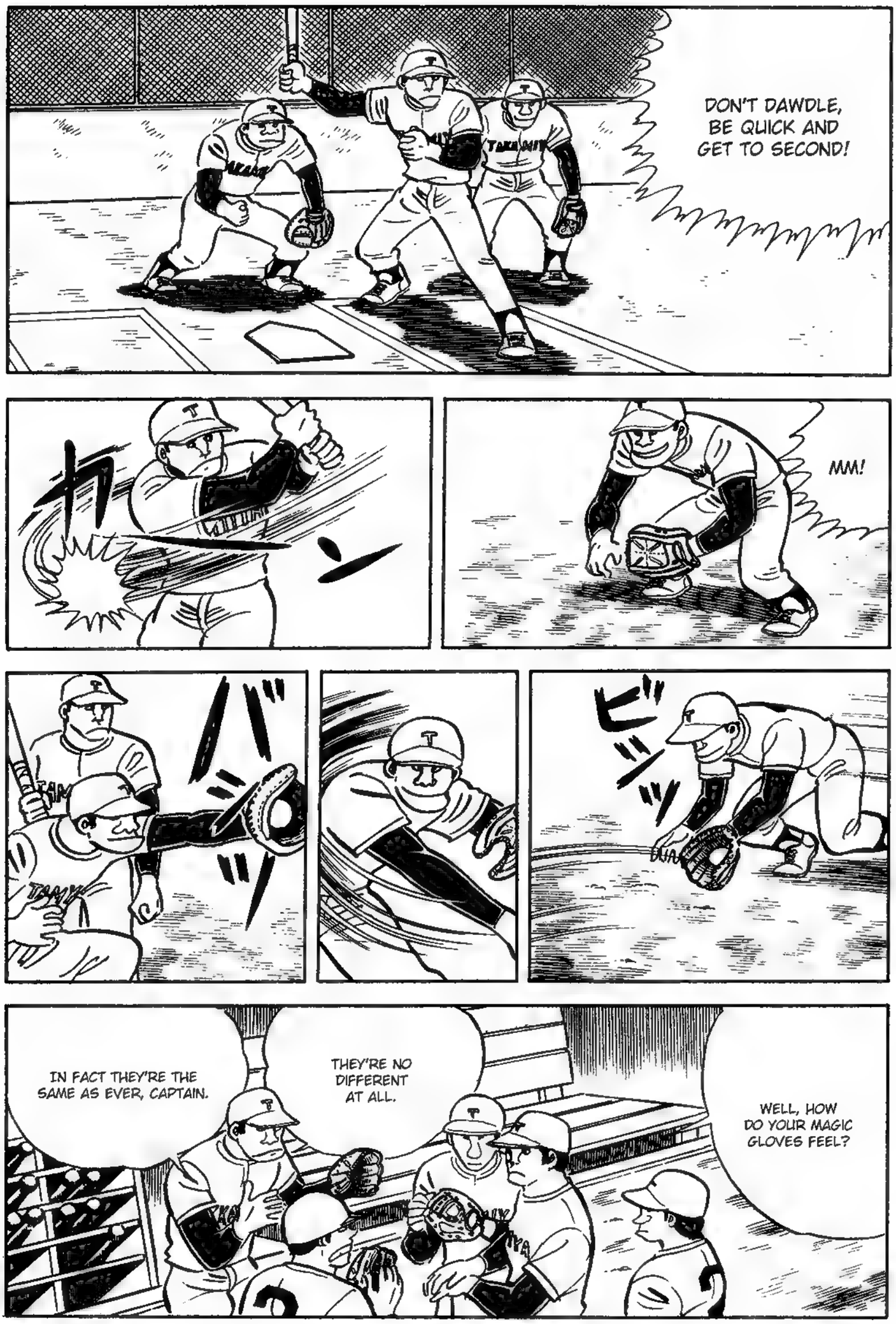

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN VICTORY SIMPLY COMES DOWN TO LUCK.
NO, BASEBALL'S NOT SOMETHING WHICH IS DECIDED BY ACTUAL STRENGTH ALONE.
BUT YOU'VE MADE IT THIS FAR, SURELY YOU DON'T NEED TO RELY ON MAGIC...


IN FACT, THEY SAY THAT IN THE AFRICAN CITY OF NAIROBI THERE ARE MANY WITCHES INVOLVED IN TRYING TO GET VICTORY DURING FOOTBALL GAMES...
IT'S CERTAINLY TRUE THAT BLACK MAGIC AND WITCHRAFT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR SPORTS...

VICTORY WILL COME DOWN TO WHETHER OR NOT YOU GUYS GIVE IT YOUR ALL RIGHT UP TO THE END.
HOWEVER YOU MUSTN'T SIMPLY RELY UPON BLACK MAGIC.


OF COURSE!
RIGHT GUYS?!
WE KNOW THAT MUCH.
TAKAMIYA
TAKAMIYA


YOU'RE GOING TO CAST MAGIC ON OUR BATS AND GLOVES?
VERY WELL THEN, I SHALL INVOKE THE DEMON. PLEASE PLACE THE TOOLS FOR YOUR MATCH INSIDE THE MAGIC CIRCLE.
AGRION!
TETRAGRAM!
WAAIIKEON!
SUTIIMULAYUTON!
ドドドド
ドカ


DON'T DAWDLE, BE QUICK AND GET TO SECOND!
MM!
IN FACT THEY'RE THE SAME AS EVER, CAPTAIN.
THEY'RE NO DIFFERENT AT ALL.
WELL, HOW DO YOUR MAGIC GLOVES FEEL?

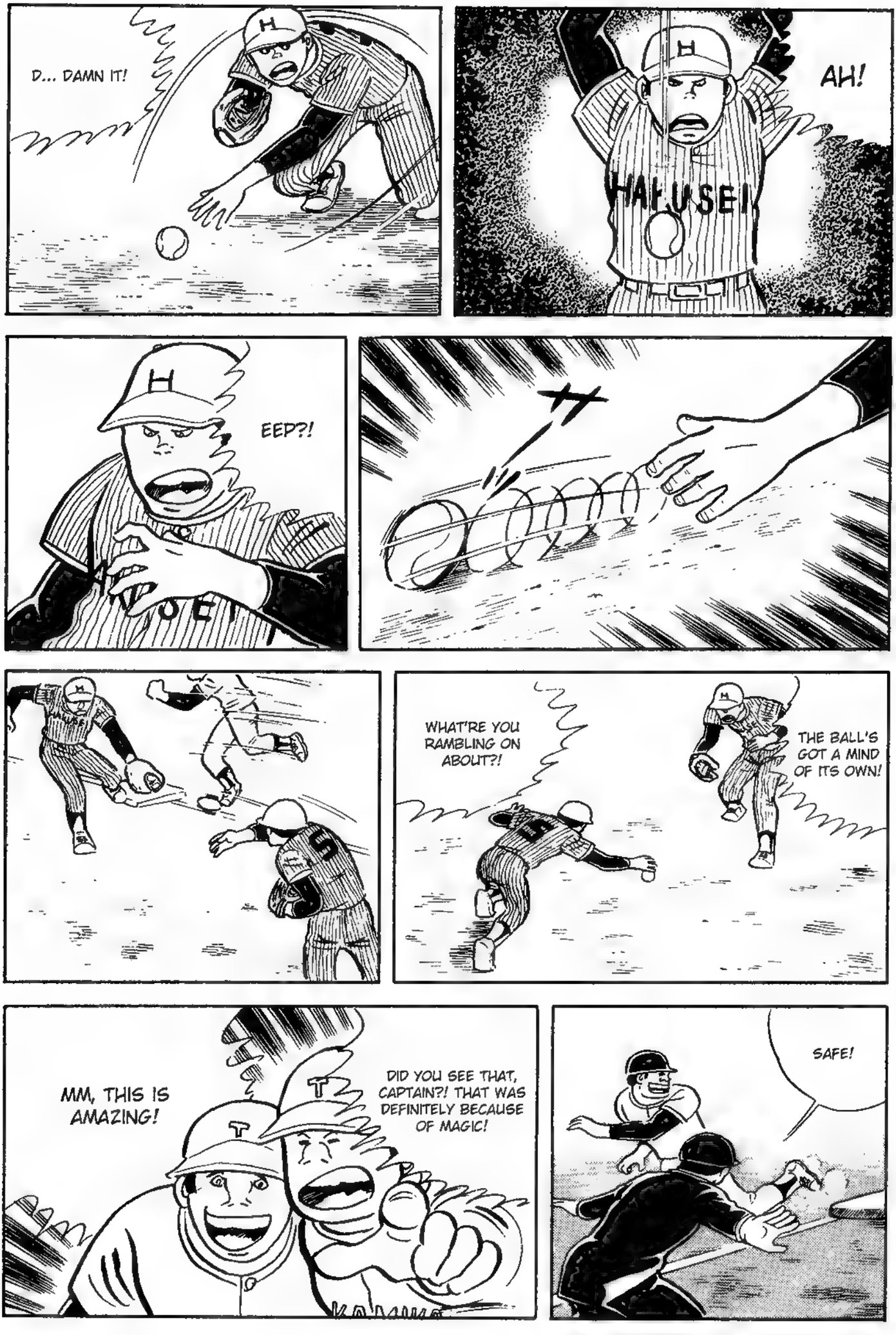
HANG IN THEEERE!
YOU CAN DO IIIIT!
GOT IT, CAPTAIN!
HAVE SOME CONFIDENCE, WE'VE GOT THIS!
OUR GODDESS OF FORTUNE.
SHE'LL BE GOOD LUCK FOR US.
BOTH SCHOOLS FOUGHT HARD TO GET HERE AND WILL SURELY DELIVER A SUPERB MATCH.
AT LONG LAST WE'VE COME TO THE FINALS OF THE PREFECTURAL MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT!
LET'S PLAY BALL!
BATTING FIRST WILL BE TAKAMIYAICHUU, WHO ARE ALSO MAKING THEIR FIRST FINALS APPEARANCE!

ウワァッ
ウワァー
ズーン
ヒュー
DON'T GET FLUSTERED, MATSUKOTO.
HE'S GONNA THROW A FAST BALL WITH A SLOW CURVE.
EVEN A PROPER HIT WILL LEAVE ME WITH A GROUNDER OR POP FLY.
AS THE RUMOURS SAID, HE HAS A BLAZING FASTBALL, PLUS HE'S A SOUTHPAW.
THAT WAS A FAST BALL.
SHIT!
HERE IT IS!

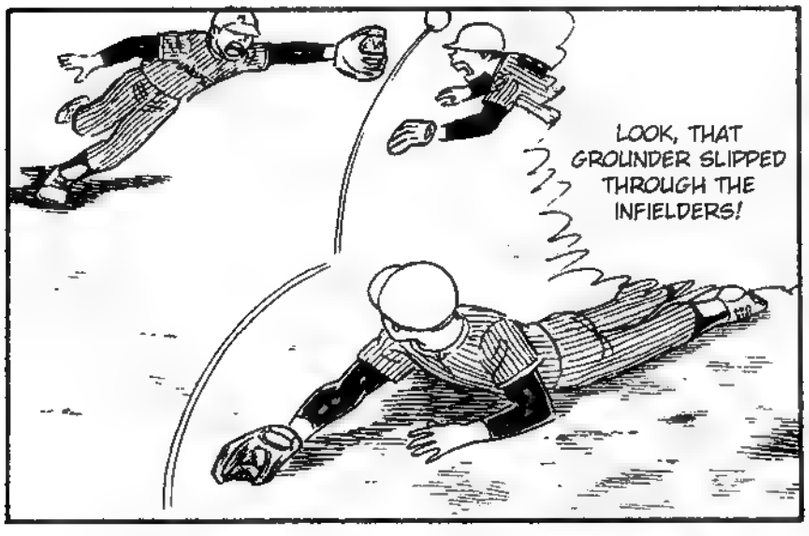
キョロ
キョロ
AKAMIY
HUH? THE BALL'S NOT IN THE MITT?
I... IDIOT, JUST RUN!
NO WAY, I SWUNG AND MISSED.
EH?
IT'S A HIT, A HIT!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING, SAKURAI!
I... IDIOT!
SHE DID CAST SOMETHING ON THE BAT DIDN'T SHE!
PERHAPS THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE MAGIC!
IT'S TRUE, THE BALL HIT THE FENCE AND I COULD GET A TRIPLE!
I GOT TO THIRD!
AAAH, AAAAHAHAHAHAA!

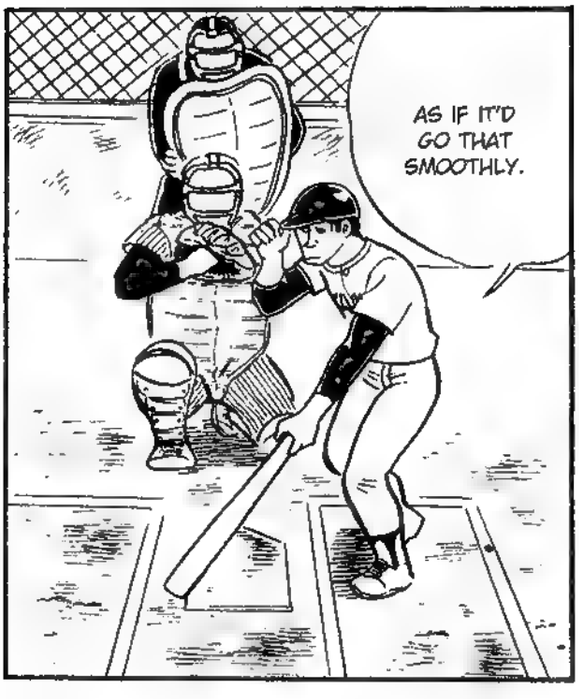
OOOOOUT!
WHAT'S GOING ON...
OUT...?
OH?
WHAT'S KUROI-SAN LOOKING AT OVER THERE?

WHAT'RE YOU MUMBLING ABOUT?
WONDER WHY SHE'S NOT WATCHING THE GAME FULLY.
SHE'S COMPLETELY LOOKING ELSEWHERE.
YOU WASTED OUR CHANCE!
WHY DIDN'T YOU RUN QUICKER, YOU WOULD'VE BEEN SAFE?!
FUFU.
TCH, THE PITCHER'S GOT THE FLY BALL EH.
カキーン
2
スパン
YES, TWO OUTS!


D... DAMN IT!
AH!
HAKUSEI
EEP?!
WHAT'RE YOU RAMBLING ON ABOUT?!
THE BALL'S GOT A MIND OF ITS OWN!
MM, THIS IS AMAZING!
DID YOU SEE THAT, CAPTAIN?! THAT WAS DEFINITELY BECAUSE OF MAGIC!
SAFE!

TH... THAT'D BE A BIT INSANE...!
OKAY YOU LOT, FORGET EVERYTHING AND JUST SWING, SWING, SWING YOUR BATS!

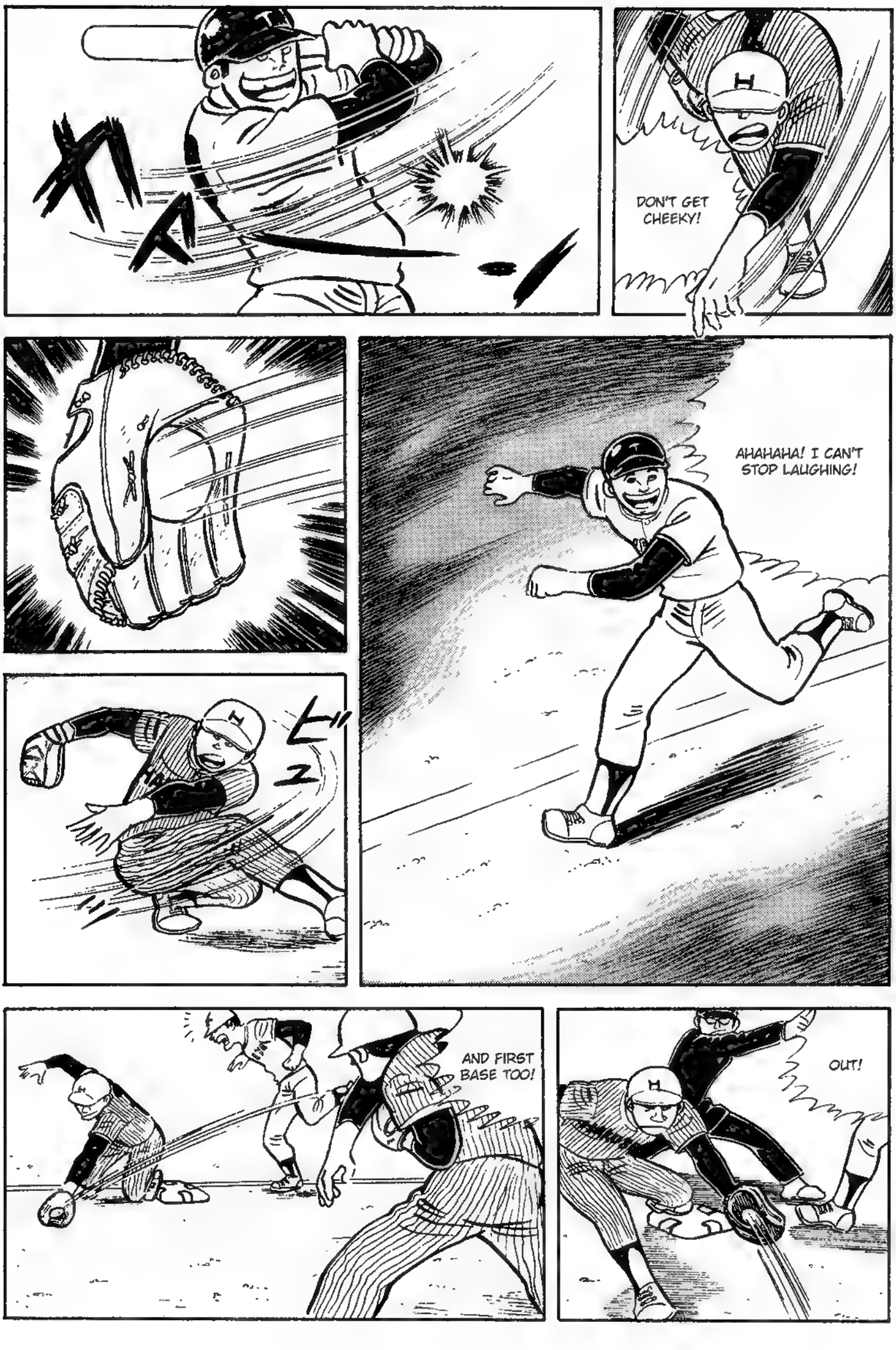

LOOK, THAT GROUNDER SLIPPED THROUGH THE INFIELDERS!

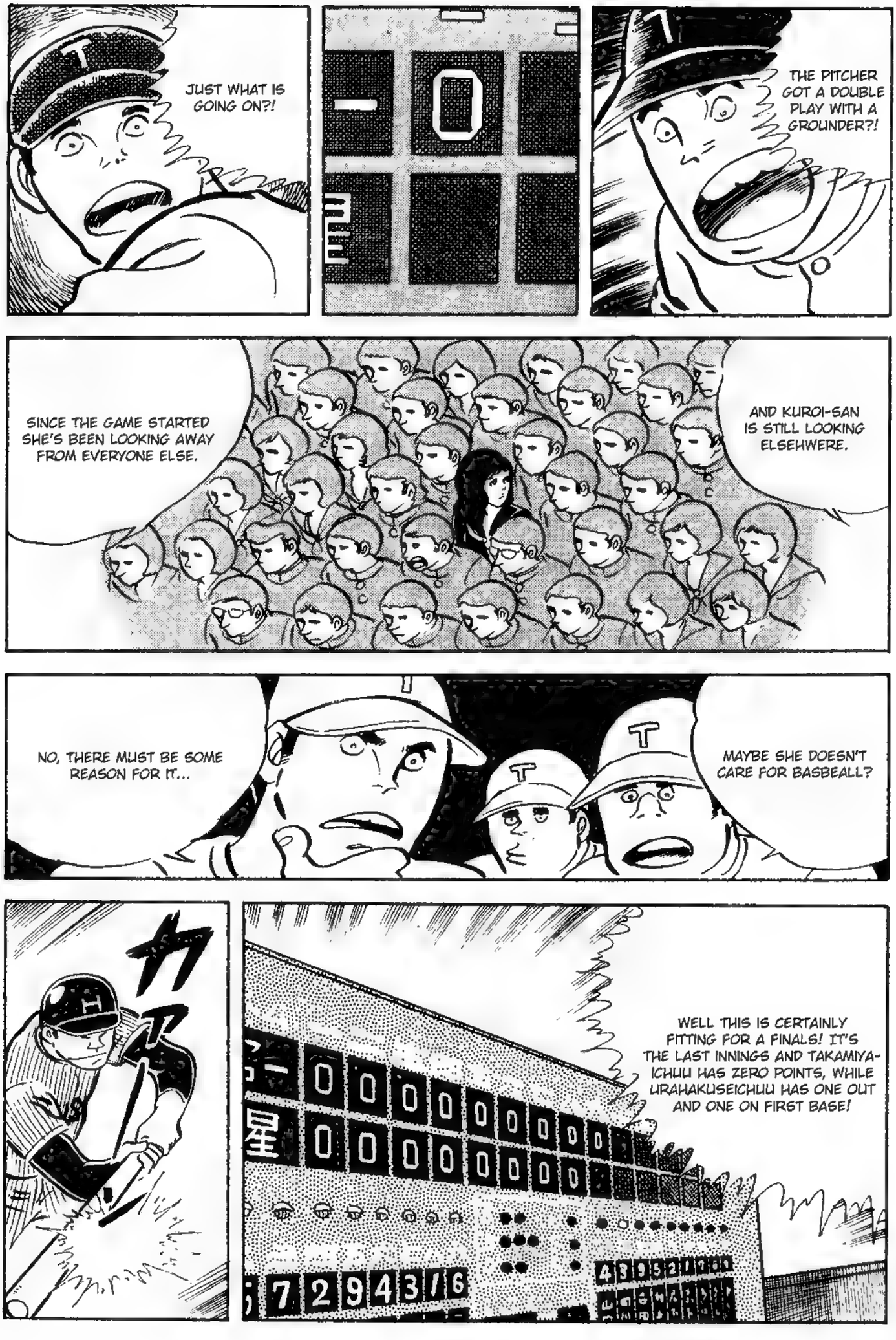

AS IF IT'D GO THAT SMOOTHLY.

LISTEN JUST SWING IT AS HARD AS YOU CAN. THE BALL'LL GET HIT OF ITS OWN ACCORD.

LET LOOSE YOUR FOCUSED SWINGS!
OH, THEY'VE ONE OUT, ONE ON THIRD BASE!

THE OPPONENT'S BALL'S GOTTEN AGITATED TOO.
ARGH!
カチ
カチ
AND THE CAPTAIN'S UP NOW!
ALRIGHT, BASES LOADED!
BALL FOUR!
A HOMERUN WITH BASES LOADED WILL GET US FOUR POINTS!
AHAHAHA!
ALRIGHT, COME ON, HOWEVER YOU LIKE!


DON'T GET CHEEKY!
AHAHAHA! I CAN'T STOP LAUGHING!
AND FIRST BASE TOO!
OUT!


JUST WHAT IS GOING ON?!
THE PITCHER GOT A DOUBLE PLAY WITH A GROUNDER?!
SINCE THE GAME STARTED SHE'S BEEN LOOKING AWAY FROM EVERYONE ELSE.
AND KUROI-SAN IS STILL LOOKING ELSEHWERE.
NO, THERE MUST BE SOME REASON FOR IT...
MAYBE SHE DOESN'T CARE FOR BASBEALL?
WELL THIS IS CERTAINLY FITTING FOR A FINALS! IT'S THE LAST INNINGS AND TAKAMIYA-ICHUU HAS ZERO POINTS, WHILE URAHAKUSEICHUU HAS ONE OUT AND ONE ON FIRST BASE!

ONE HIT COULD WIN THIS! IT'S RISKY TIMES!
ONE OUT, ONE ON SECOND BASE!
IT'S A HIT!
SHIT. YOU'LL PAY IF WE LOSE THIS!
TRULY INCOMPRE-HENSIBLE.
TOWARDS THE CENTRE...
NOW SHE'S LOOKING UP AT THE SKY.
WE'LL ALL BEAT THE HELL OUT OF YOU!
A FLY BALL TO CENTRE!
I CAN'T WATCH!
AAAAH, THAT WAS A GOOD HIT!

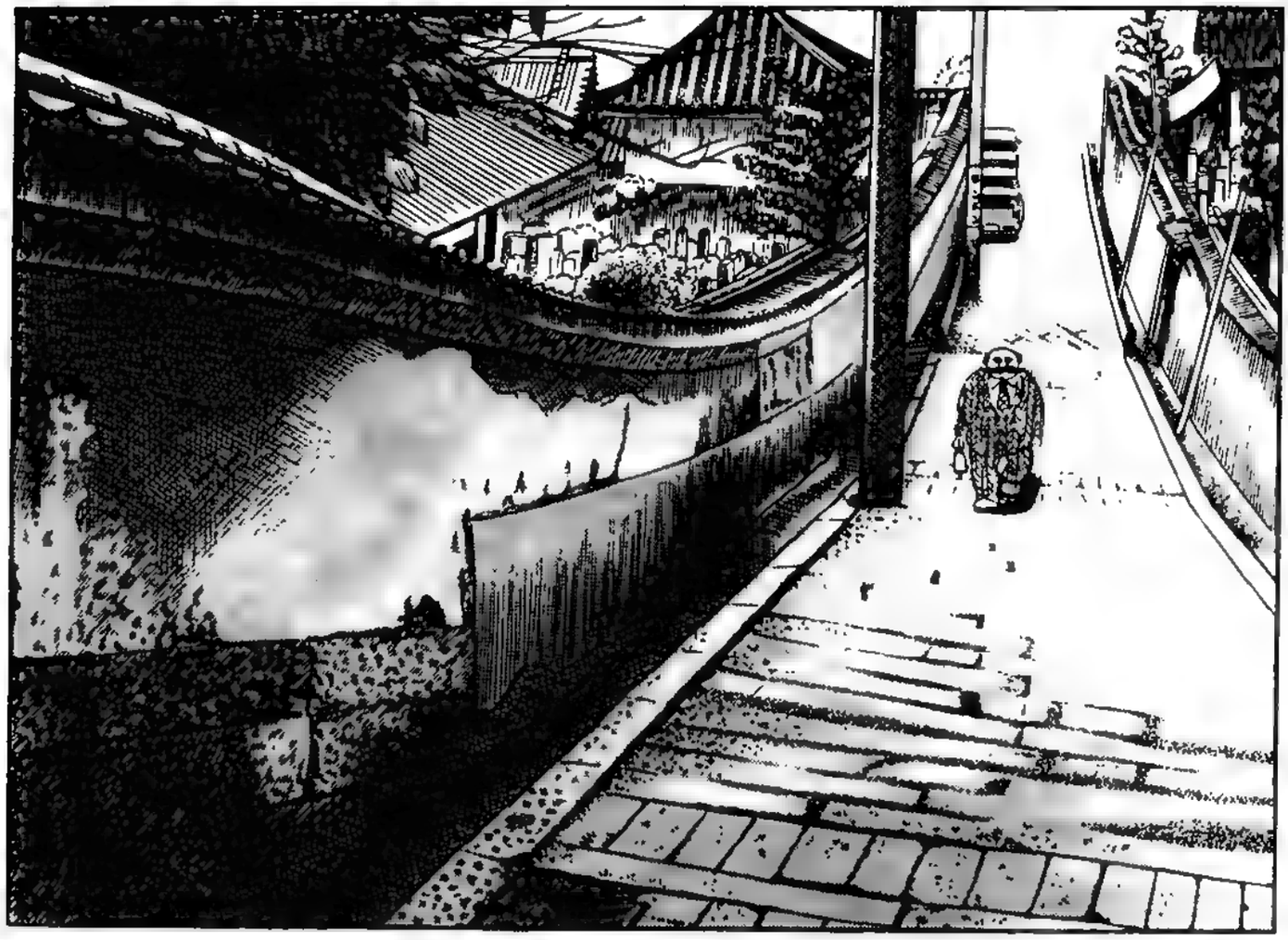
PERHAPS SHE CAN TELL WHICH DIRECTION THE BALL WILL GO IN BEFORE IT'S HIT?!
I'VE GOT IT!
UH, THEN MAYBE...?!
HOLD ON. I'M SURE SHE WAS JUST LOOKING TOWARDS THE CENTRE.
RIGHT NOW SHE'S LOOKING TO US... ON THE LEFT FIELD.
SO NEXT TIME THE BATTER MAY WELL GET A FLY BALL RIGHT BY THE FENCE, OR A HOME RUN.

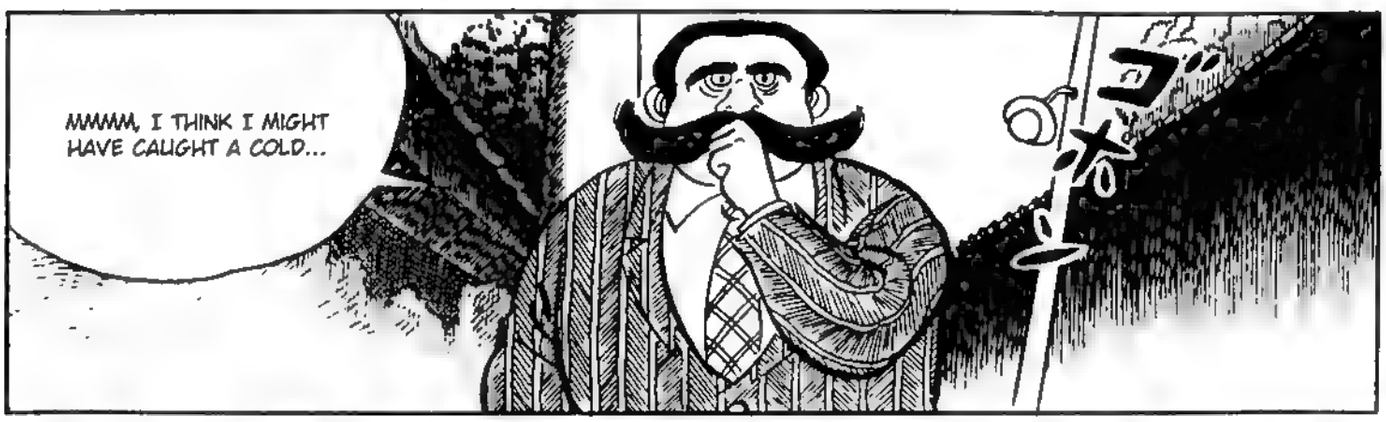
WHAT'S UP WITH HIM? THE LEFT'S CAPTAIN IS RUSHING BACK ALL OF A SUDDEN.
EEEEH, I GUESS THIS IS DO OR DIE ANYWAY!
YAMIYA
カダァー!!
カキィ
AAAH! THERE HE IS! THE LEFT'S CAPTAIN NARITA-KUN HAS ALREADY SET UP BY THE SIDE OF THE FENCE!
TAKAMIN
IS IT IN, IS IT IN?!
WILL IT BE FAREWELL TO THE THREE MAN HOMERUN?!
A BIG HIT TO THE LEFT!
THE BALL'S WHIZZING THROUGH THE AIR!

ワーワー
AND HE'S THE BEST JUMPER!
KAMIYA
HE'S CAUGHT IT! THREE OUTS! TAKAMIYAICHUU ESCAPE THEIR TROUBLES!
UFUFU. IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, YOU MIGHT WELL HAVE WON HAD YOU NOT USED ANY MAGIC.
YOU NARROWLY SAVED US FROM DEATH THOUGH, MISA-SAN.
ULTIMATELY IT LASTED 13 INNINGS, BUT WAS CALLED A DRAW AT SUNSET.
EKO EKO AZARAK!
EKO EKO ZAMERAK!
I THINK THAT WOULD BE BEST.
WE'LL BE PLAYING AGAIN TOMORROW, WHEN WE'LL WIN IT WITH OUR ACTUAL STRENGTH!
WE WERE TOO TAKEN OVER BY THE MAGIC.

♣エコエコ　　アザラク♣

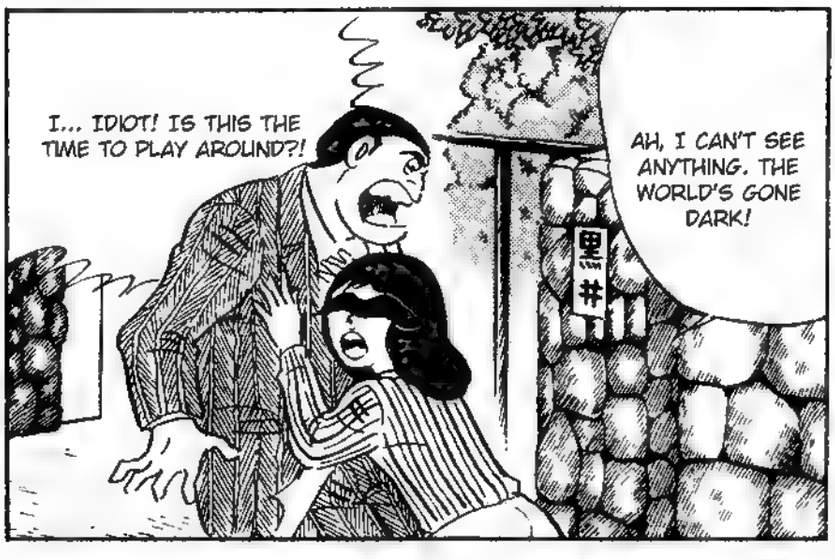
THE PRINCIPAL'S SECRET

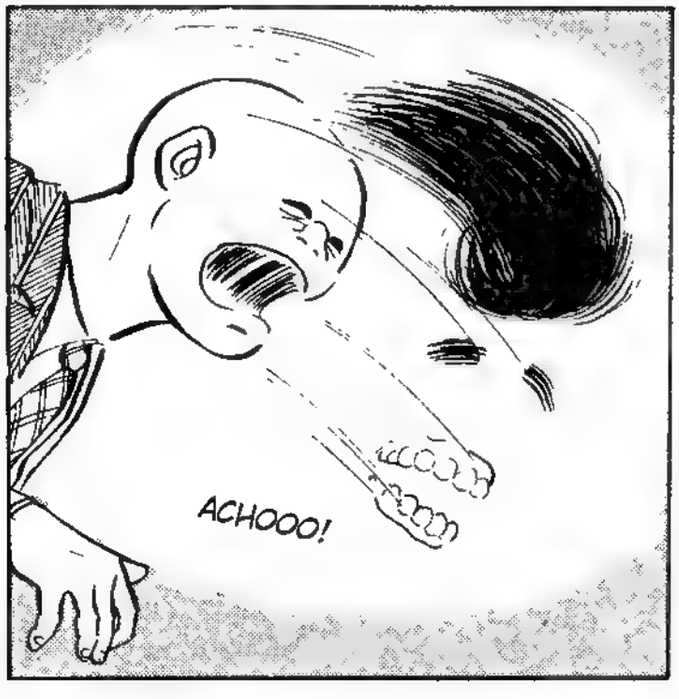


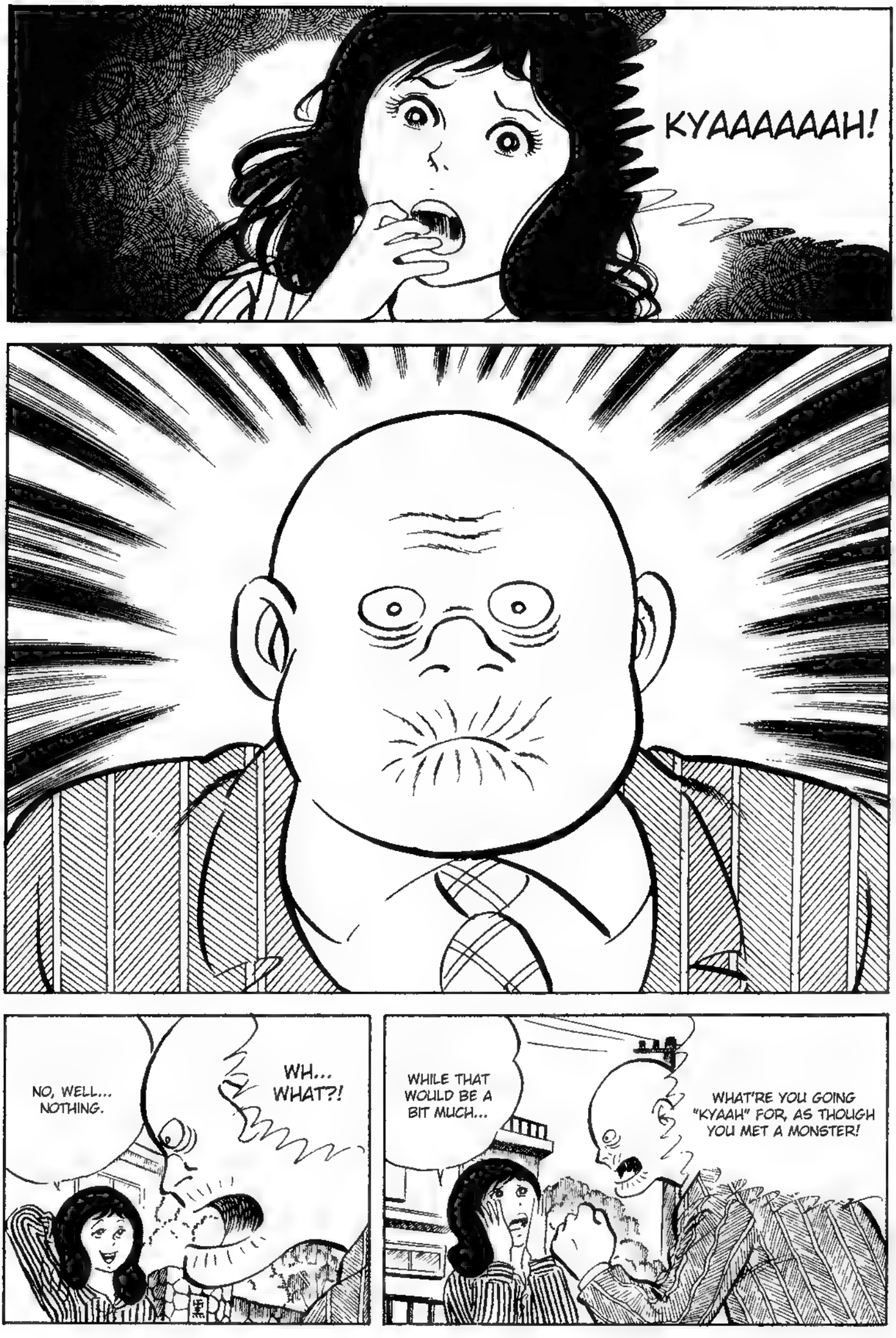

MMMM, I THINK I MIGHT HAVE CAUGHT A COLD...

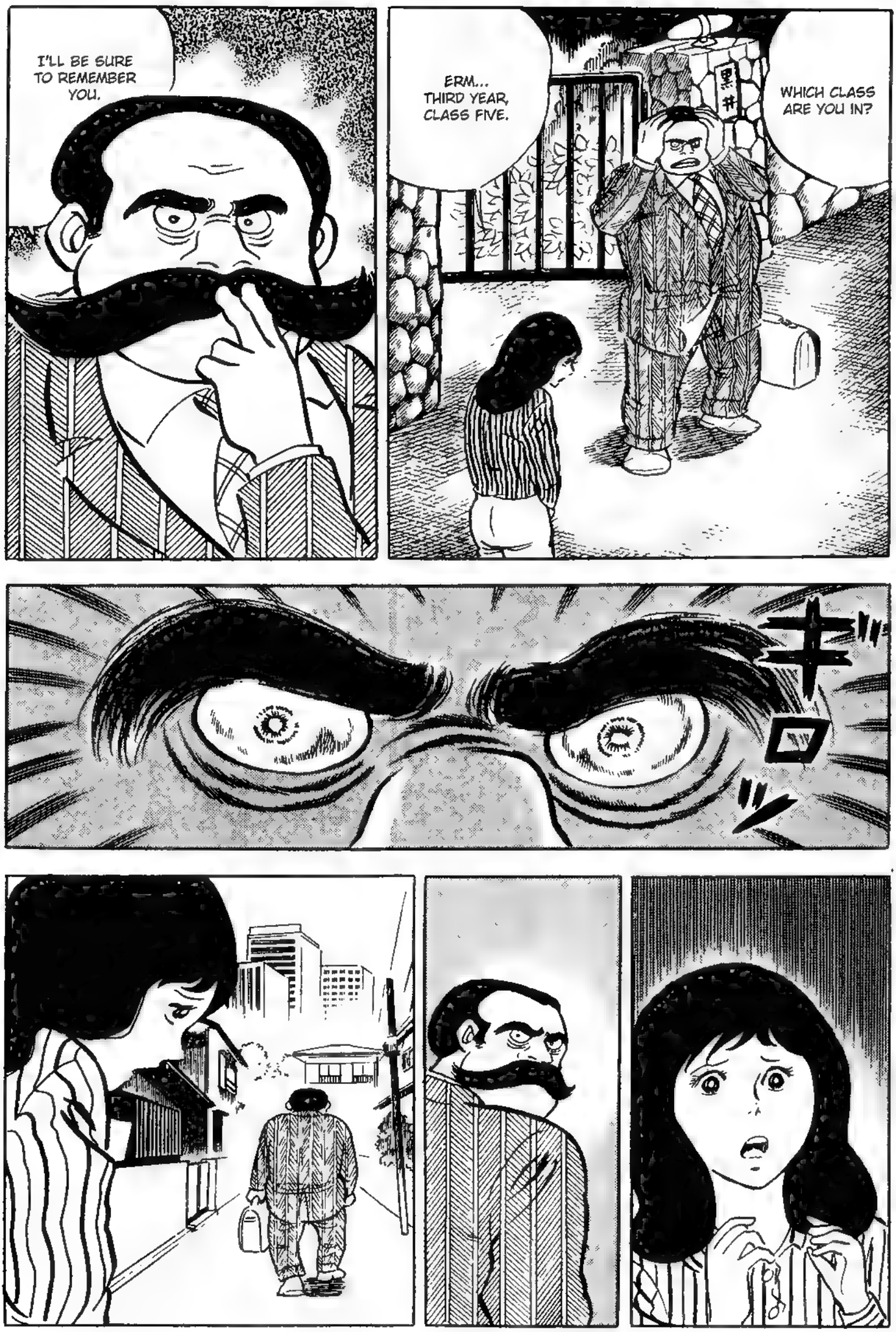
AH!
AAAH, IT'S THE PRINCIPAL!
S... SORRY...
AA...

T/N: THE SIGN READS "KUROI".






KYAAAAAAH!
WH... WHAT?!
NO, WELL... NOTHING.
WHILE THAT WOULD BE A BIT MUCH...
WHAT'RE YOU GOING "KYAAH" FOR, AS THOUGH YOU MET A MONSTER!

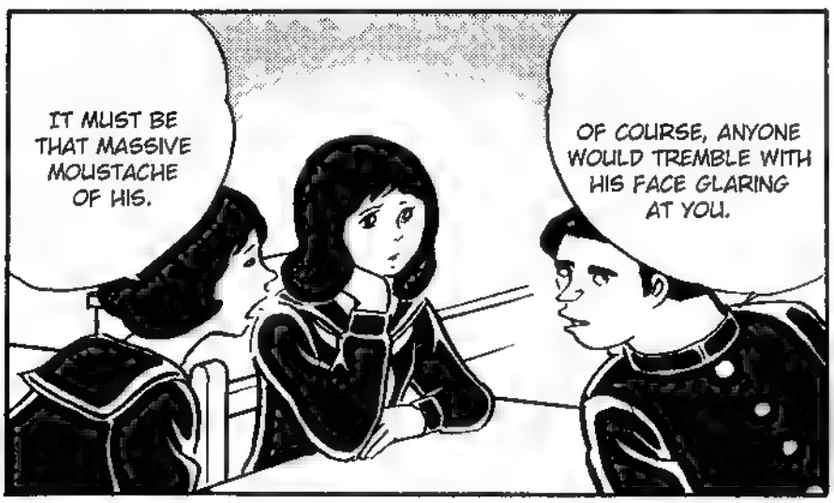

I'LL BE SURE TO REMEMBER YOU.
ERM... THIRD YEAR, CLASS FIVE.
WHICH CLASS ARE YOU IN?
黒井
キロ

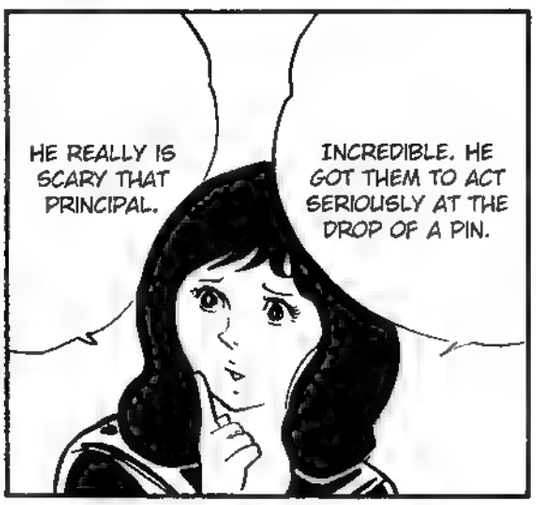
I DON'T IMAGINE SCHOOL TODAY WILL BE AT ALL PLEASANT...
THIS IS NOTHING TO LAUGH AT.
KUKU...
WHAT A SHOCK. I'D FIGURED HE MIGHT HAVE A FAKE MOUSTACHE, BUT A WIG AND DENTURES AS WELL...
ガヤ ガヤ
LEMME JUST HAVE A LITTLE SMOKE.
HEHEHEHE...
LISTEN TO THIS YOU LOT, FIRST PERIOD'S SELF STUDY!
WAHOOOOO!
YOU BET. A MORNING DRINK AIN'T TOO BAD YOU KNOW.
OH, YOU TAKING A CHEEKY DRINK?

GOODNESS.
HE'LL GET DRUNK AND BREAK OUT INTO AN UNCONTROLLABLE RAGE.
HOW COME?
THERE'LL BE REAL ISSUES BEFORE LONG.
OH NO, THAT TROUBLESOME OOMORI-KUN'S DRINKING AGAIN.
ゴクゴクゴク
ガタ
YO, MISA KUROI, WANNA HANG OUT WITH ME?
COME ON, DONT' BE SHY NOW.
NO THAT'D BE...

HOUH, YOU DRANK IT PRETTY WELL.
ゴホン
ゴホン
NOOOOOO, STOOOOP!
ゲボッ
B... BAD NEWS! THE PRINCIPAL'S DOING HIS ROUNDS!
ガラッ
QUICK, HIDE THE BOOZE!

Y... YES SIR.
WORKING HARD OOMORI-KUN?


IT MUST BE THAT MASSIVE MOUSTACHE OF HIS.
OF COURSE, ANYONE WOULD TREMBLE WITH HIS FACE GLARING AT YOU.


HE REALLY IS SCARY THAT PRINCIPAL.
INCREDIBLE. HE GOT THEM TO ACT SERIOUSLY AT THE DROP OF A PIN.

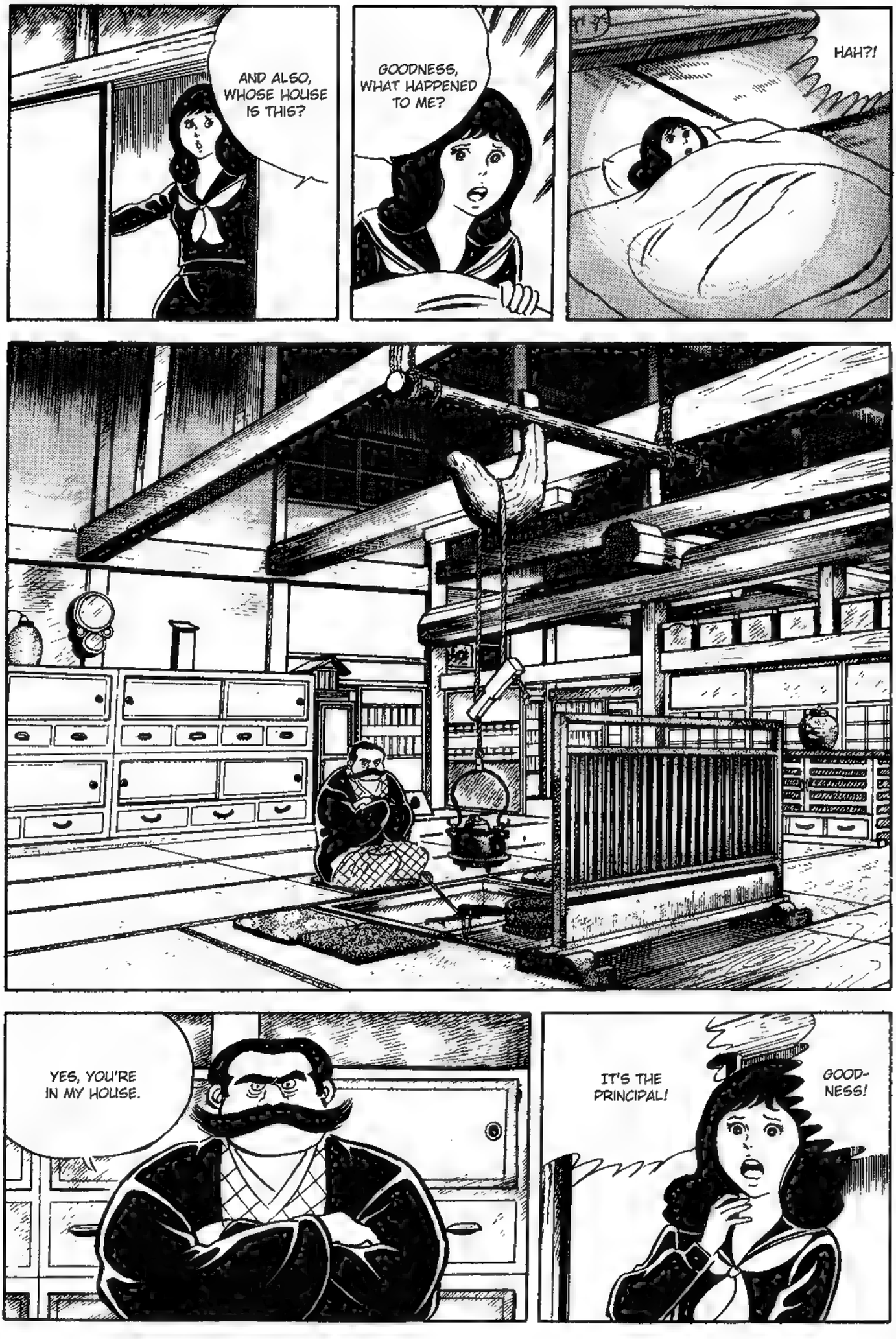
OH NO, THE BEER I WAS FORCED TO DRINK'S...
ヒグ

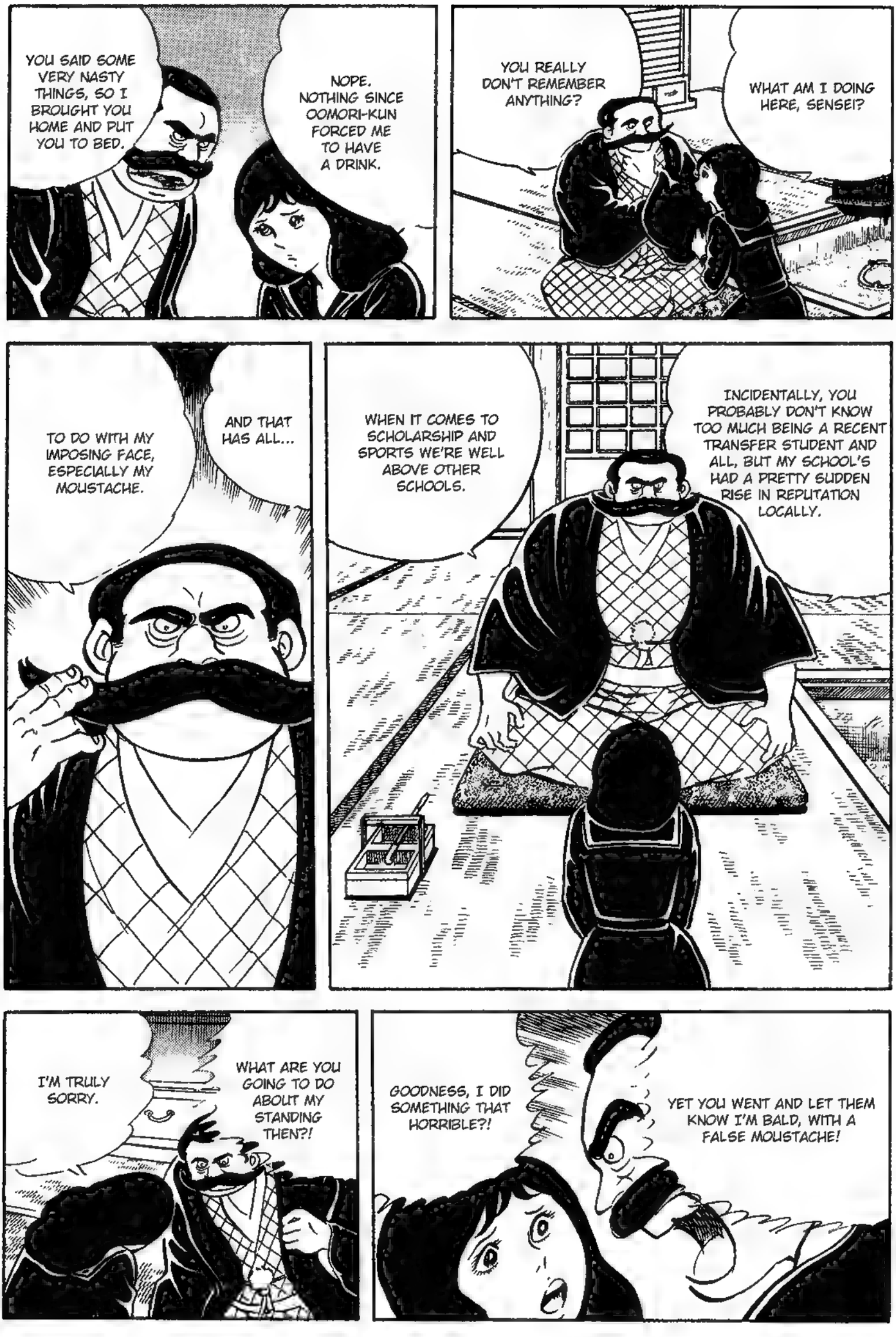
I SEE, THE MOUSTACHE.

!
HICK! HICK!
キャッ
キャッ
Y... YOU! HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING?!
HICK!
UHHHHHHHH!
COME ON, LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT SERIOUS STUFF LIKE THAT.
WHY ON EARTH IS A MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRL DRUNK DURING SELF STUDY?!

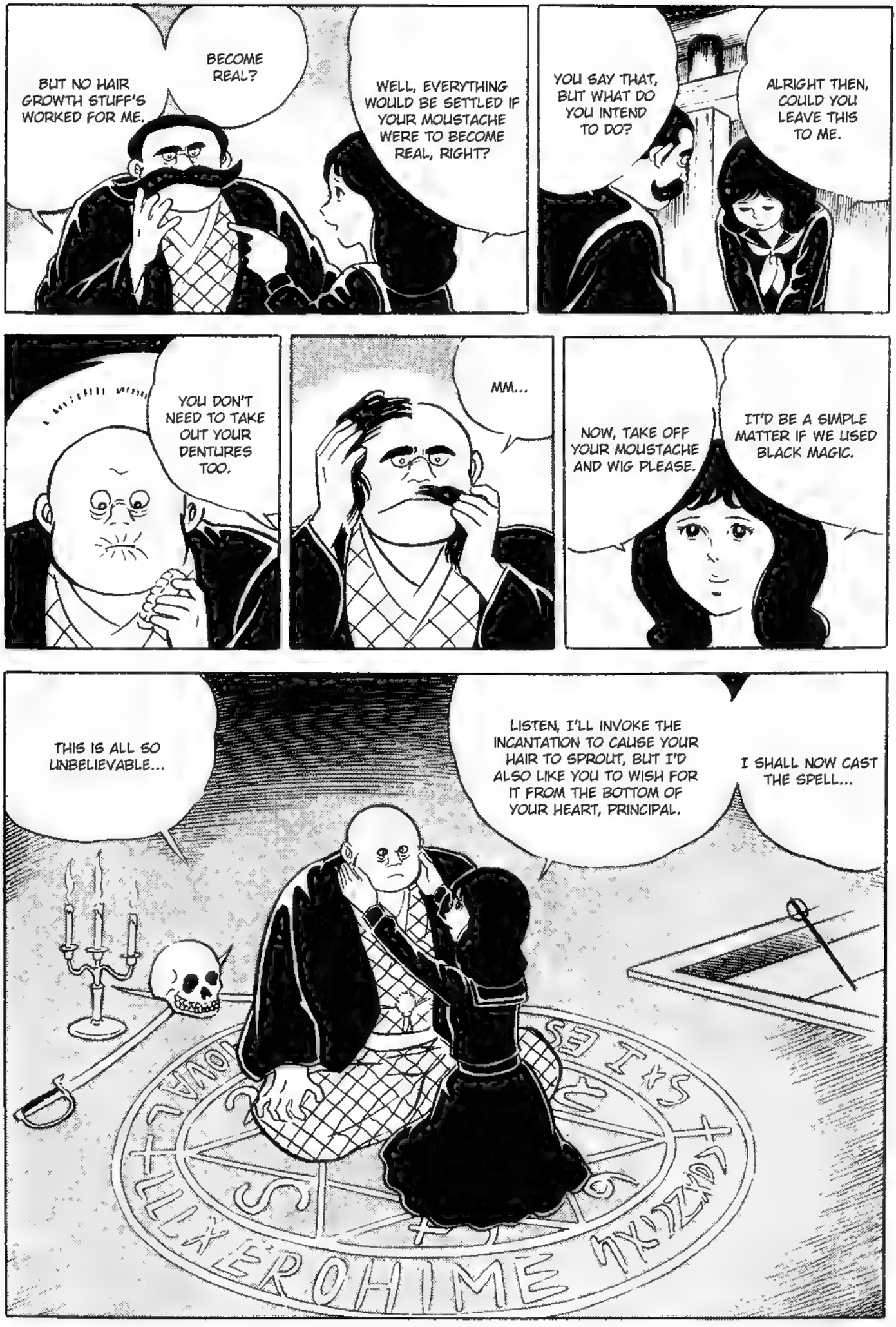
NOW NOW, SHOUT TOO MUCH AND THAT FAKE MOUSTACHE OF YOURS WILL FALL OFF AGAIN! UIIIIH!
I'M TALKING TO YOU!
UH!
YEP, YOU SEE HIS FACE'S...
ガヤガヤ
FAKE MOUSTACHE?!

GET OFF ME, YOU BALD GEEZEEER!
QUIET. LET'S TAKE A BRIEF TRIP TO THE STAFF ROOM!
KYAAAH! WEIRDO, DON'T TOUCH ME! PERV!
S... SILLY GIRL! DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO STOP ALREADY!
BALD GEEZER?
ガヤ
ガヤ


AND ALSO, WHOSE HOUSE IS THIS?
GOODNESS, WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?
HAH?!
YES, YOU'RE IN MY HOUSE.
IT'S THE PRINCIPAL!
GOOD-NESS!


YOU SAID SOME VERY NASTY THINGS, SO I BROUGHT YOU HOME AND PUT YOU TO BED.
NOPE. NOTHING SINCE OOMORI-KUN FORCED ME TO HAVE A DRINK.
YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING?
WHAT AM I DOING HERE, SENSEI?
TO DO WITH MY IMPOSING FACE, ESPECIALLY MY MOUSTACHE.
AND THAT HAS ALL...
WHEN IT COMES TO SCHOLARSHIP AND SPORTS WE'RE WELL ABOVE OTHER SCHOOLS.
INCIDENTALLY, YOU PROBABLY DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH BEING A RECENT TRANSFER STUDENT AND ALL, BUT MY SCHOOL'S HAD A PRETTY SUDDEN RISE IN REPUTATION LOCALLY.
I'M TRULY SORRY.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT MY STANDING THEN?!
GOODNESS, I DID SOMETHING THAT HORRIBLE?!
YET YOU WENT AND LET THEM KNOW I'M BALD, WITH A FALSE MOUSTACHE!

THE LOOK IN THAT OOMORI'S EYES WAS ESPECIALLY BAD.
IT WOULD SEEM THE STUDENTS HARBOUR SOME DOUBTS ABOUT MY MOUSTACHE.
ビッ
コホン
IN FACT JUST AFTER SCHOOL TODAY...
SHIT, I MESSED UP.
ズーン
OOMORI-KUN'S THE SORT WHO MIGHT WELL TRY ANYTHING.
HE WAS TRYING TO SHAME ME INFRONT OF THE STUDENTS.
YEP, BET HE WAS AFTER MY MOUSTACHE.
GOODNESS HE USED A SLINGSHOT?!


BUT NO HAIR GROWTH STUFF'S WORKED FOR ME.
BECOME REAL?
WELL, EVERYTHING WOULD BE SETTLED IF YOUR MOUSTACHE WERE TO BECOME REAL, RIGHT?
YOU SAY THAT, BUT WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO?
ALRIGHT THEN, COULD YOU LEAVE THIS TO ME.
YOU DON'T NEED TO TAKE OUT YOUR DENTURES TOO.
MM...
NOW, TAKE OFF YOUR MOUSTACHE AND WIG PLEASE.
IT'D BE A SIMPLE MATTER IF WE USED BLACK MAGIC.
THIS IS ALL SO UNBELIEVABLE...
LISTEN, I'LL INVOKE THE INCANTATION TO CAUSE YOUR HAIR TO SPROUT, BUT I'D ALSO LIKE YOU TO WISH FOR IT FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART, PRINCIPAL.
I SHALL NOW CAST THE SPELL...
ELLIXEROHIME

ガーン
EKO EKO ZAMERAK!
アーラク
EKO EKO AZARAK!
I'M SURE THAT, COME TOMORROW MORNING, YOU'LL HAVE SOME FINE HAIR SPROUTING.
YEAH YEAH, THERE'S NO WAY TO DENY IT NOW.
OI, KUROI! WE HEARD THAT THE PRINCIPAL'S MOUSTACHE AND HAIR ARE ALL FAKE.
AND HE'S GOT YOU ON HIS SIDE!
THAT PISS STINKING PRINCIPAL OF OUR'S GOT MAD DIDN'T HE.
YOU THINK YOU CAN TRICK US AT THIS POINT IN TIME?
OH NO, I WAS DRUNK AND SPOUTING NONSENSE.

FUFUFU. JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE.
EEH?!
WHATEVER. HE'S GONNA BE UNMASKED INFRONT OF EVERYONE TODAY.

HE'S HERE THEN!

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL!
OI!

GOODNESS, I WONDER WHY HE'S WEARING A HAT AND MASK?

ODD. DID MY MAGIC HAVE NO EFFECT?
HE DEFINITELY FEELS AWKWARD, SO HE'S HIDDEN HIS HEAD AND FACE!
AHAHA, LOOK AT THAT GETUP OF HIS!
NOW'S OUR CHANCE!
ALRIGHT, HE WENT AND FELL OVER.
UH!

YOU'RE NOT HURT ARE YOU? LET'S JUST TAKE A QUICK LOOK TO MAKE SURE.
DEARIE ME, DEARIE ME. YOU OKAY PRINCIPAL?!
ARGH!
AH!

THEN HIS MOUSTACHE WASN'T FAKE?!
TH... THE HAIR'S REAL!

I CUT AND I CUT, BUT MY HAIR KEEPS GROWING BACK.
SAY KUROI-KUN. WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?!

UHYAAAAAH!
DA!!
THIS IS BAD, RUUUUUN!

I GUESS THE EFFECT WAS A LITTLE TOO STRONG. I'LL FIX IT WITH SOME MORE MAGIC LATER.

♣エコエコ　　アザラク♣

♣ THE DEVIL CHILD

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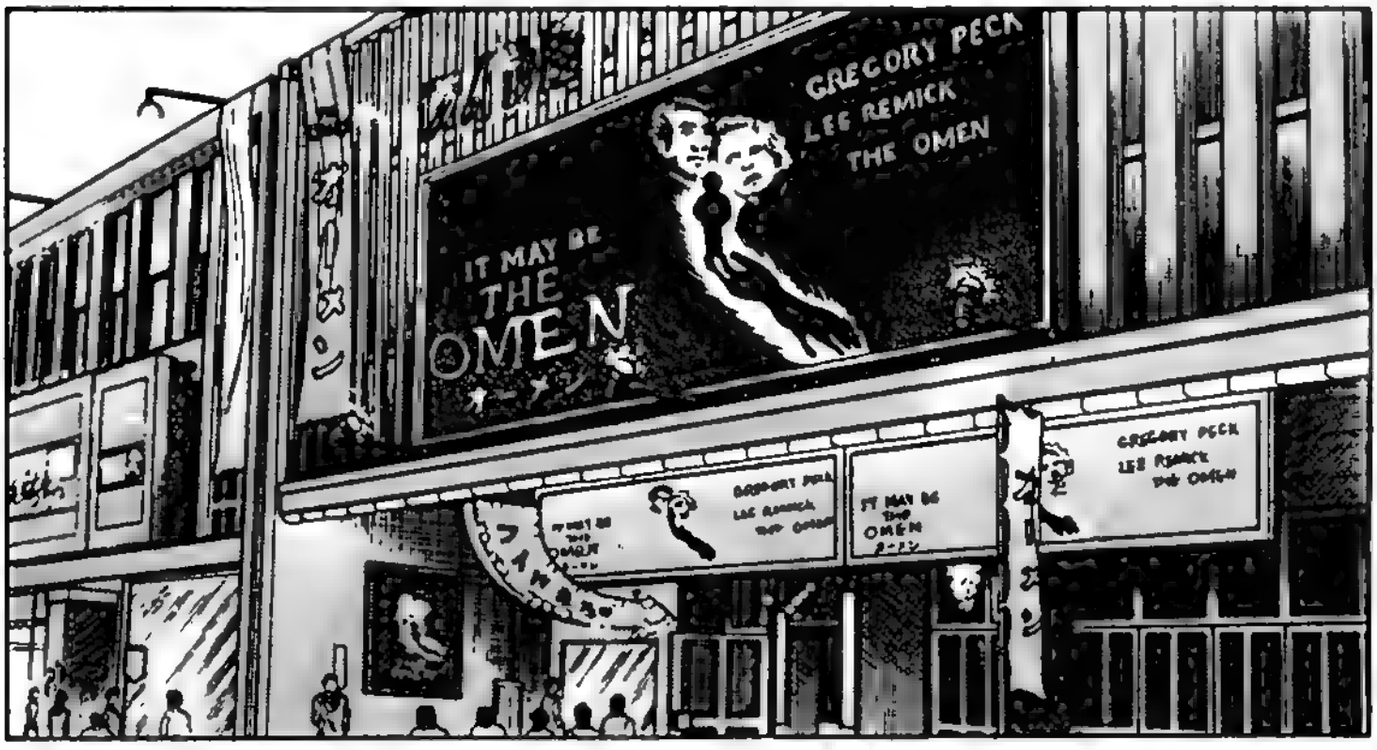
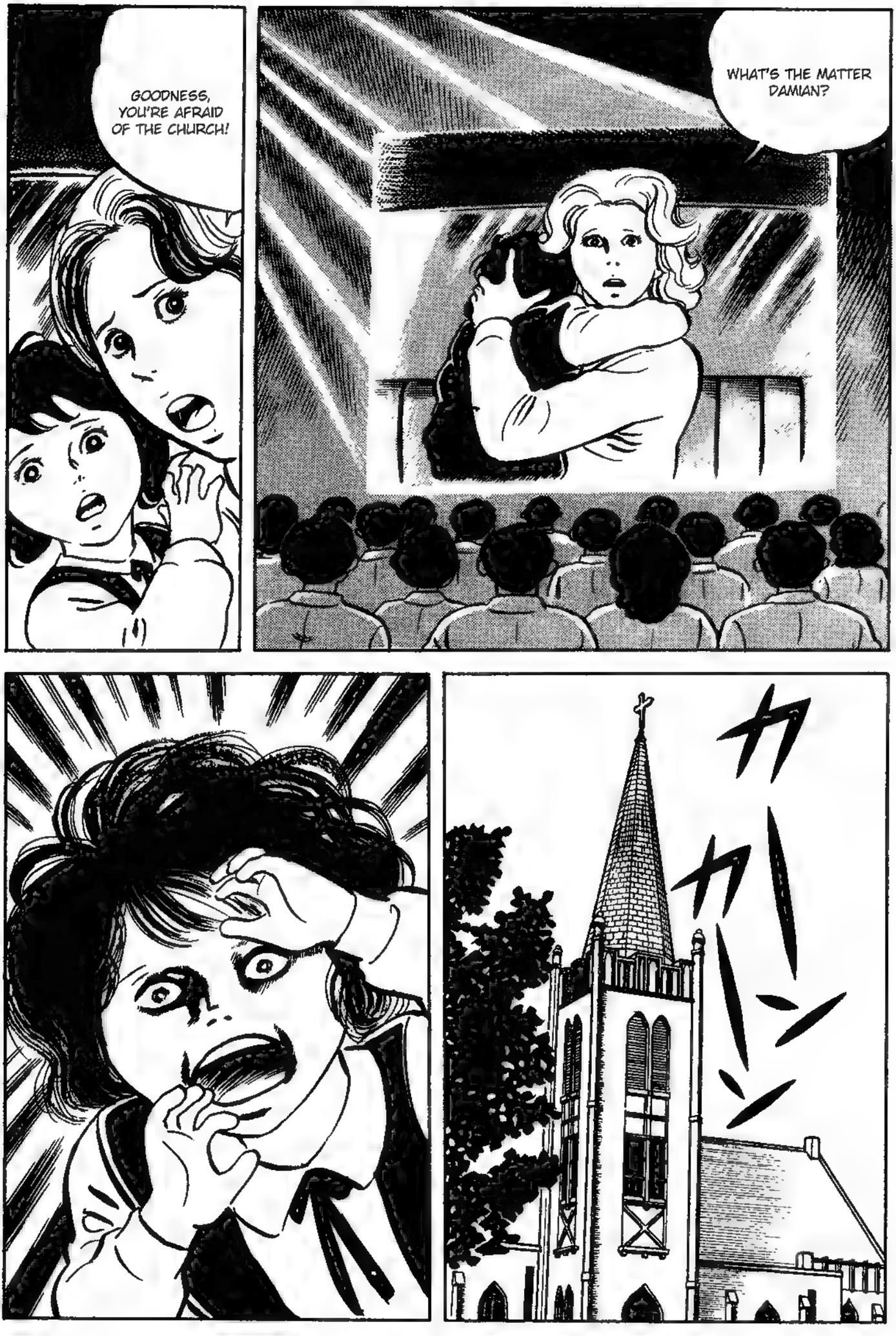

GREGORY PECK
LEE REMICK
THE OMEN
IT MAY BE
THE
OMEN
オーメン


GOODNESS, YOU'RE AFRAID OF THE CHURCH!
WHAT'S THE MATTER DAMIAN?
カ
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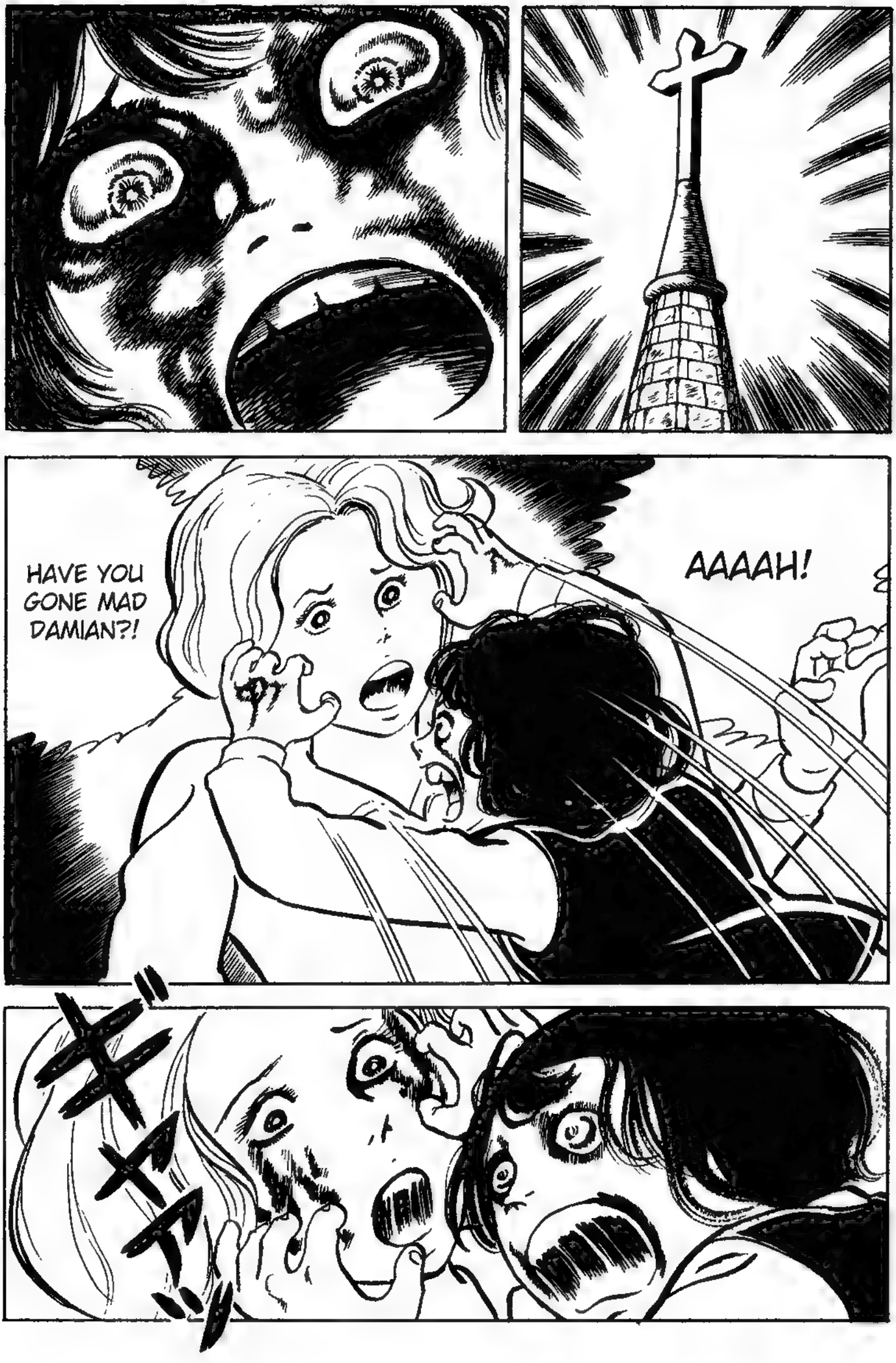
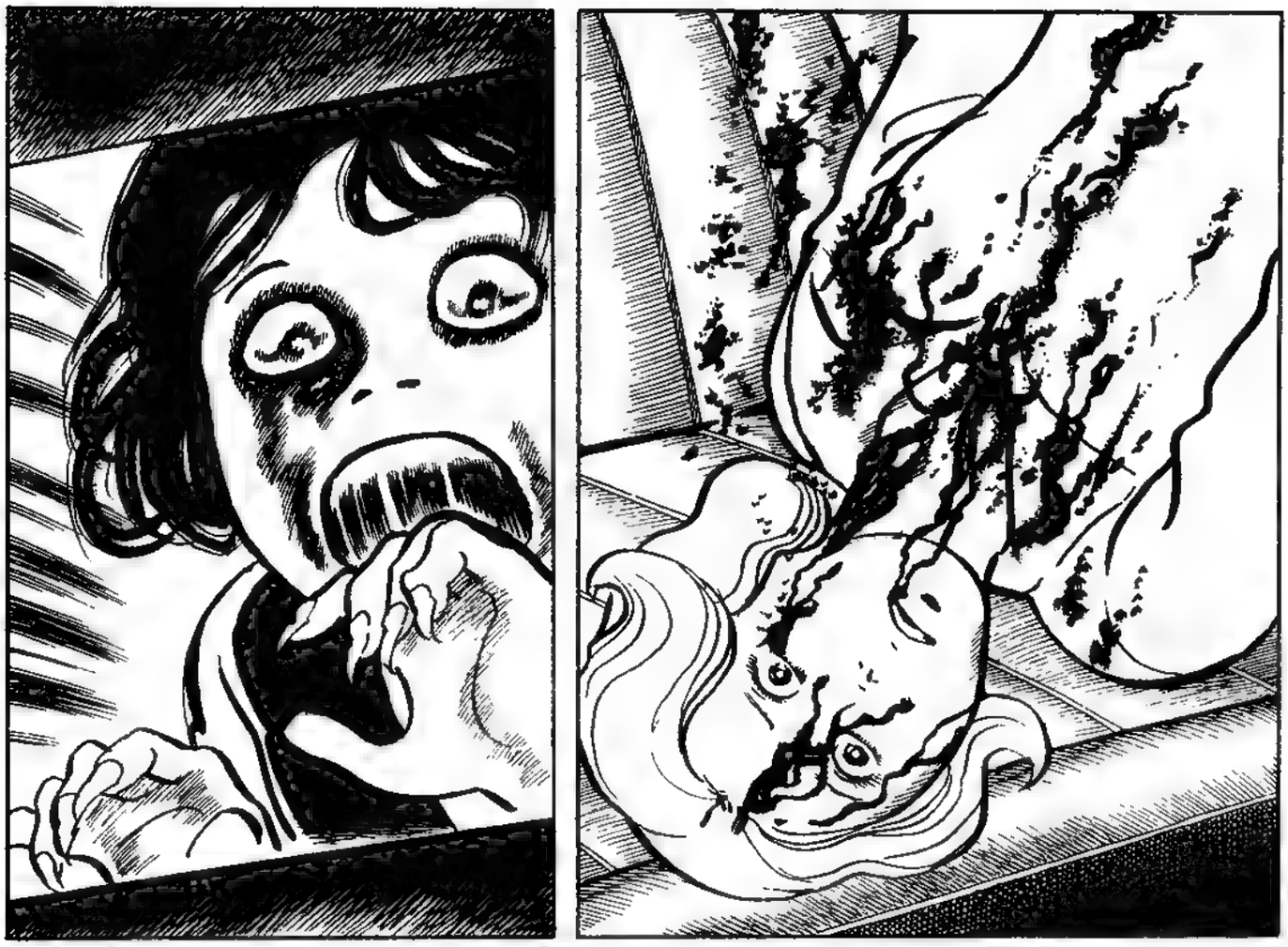
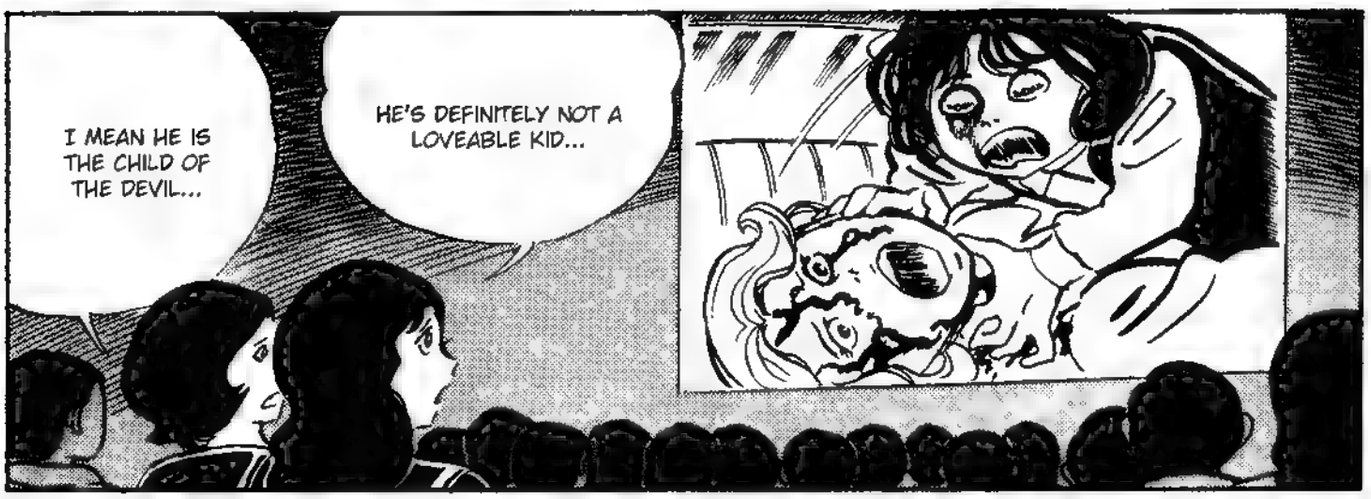
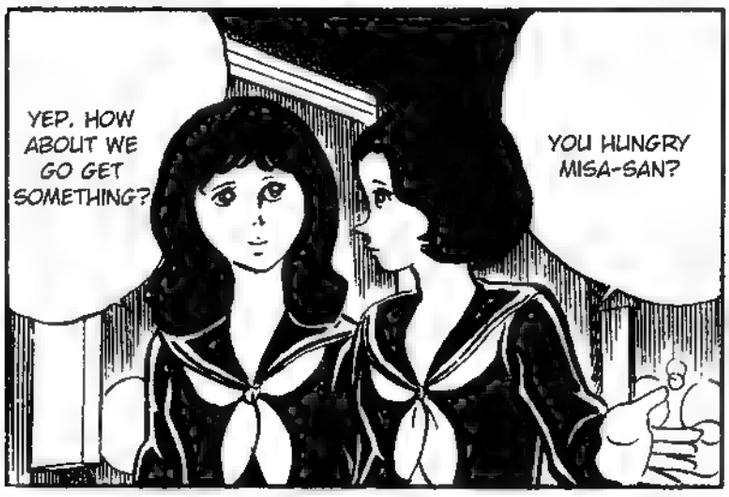
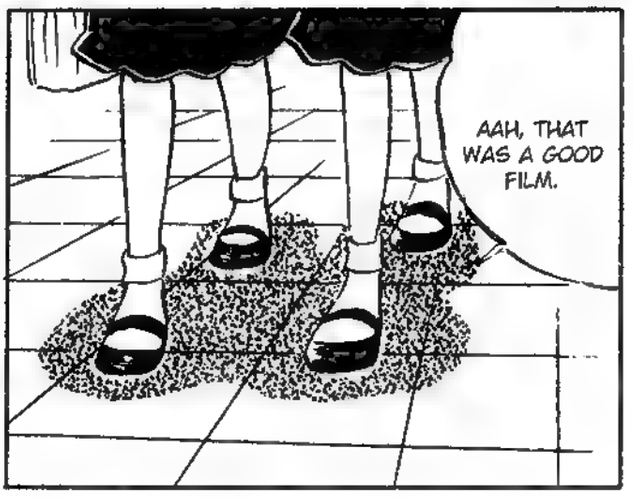
ン

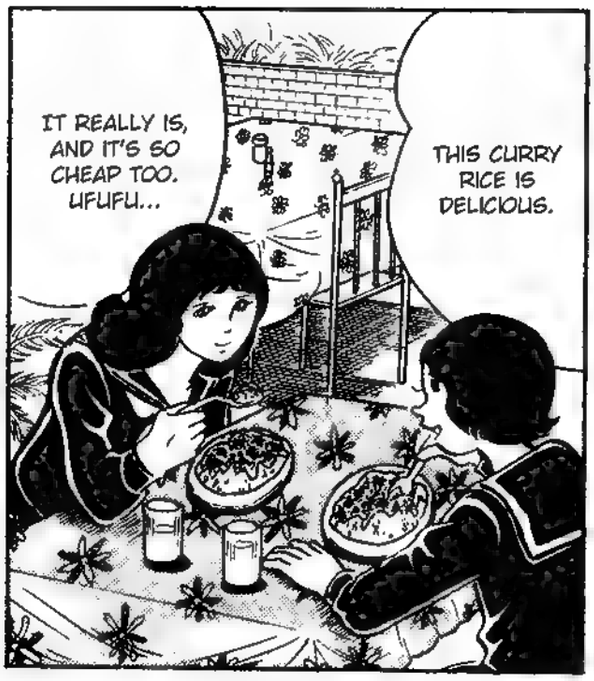

HAVE YOU GONE MAD DAMIAN?!
AAAAH!

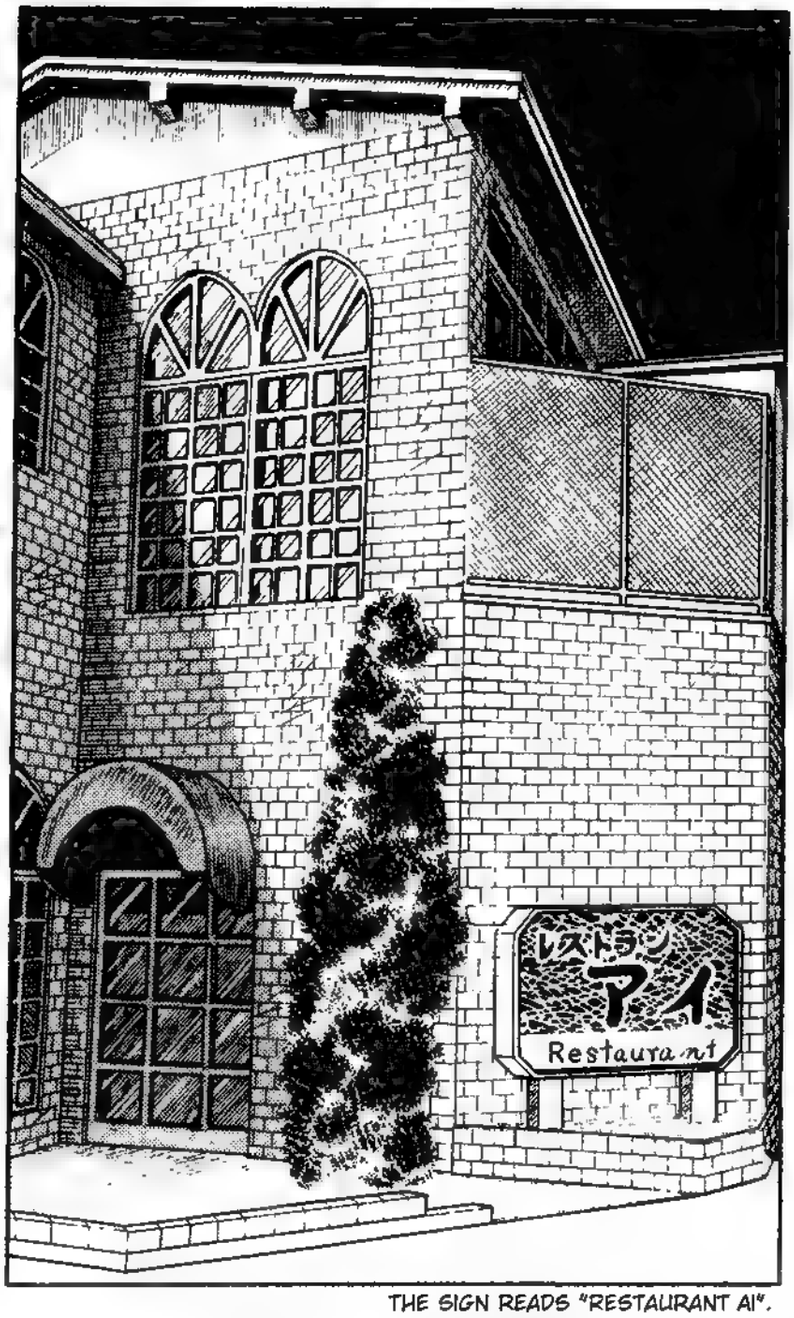



I MEAN HE IS THE CHILD OF THE DEVIL...
HE'S DEFINITELY NOT A LOVEABLE KID...


YEP. HOW ABOUT WE GO GET SOMETHING?
YOU HUNGRY MISA-SAN?


AAH, THAT WAS A GOOD FILM.





THE SIGN READS "RESTAURANT AI".

SO YOU WERE JUST LOITERING AROUND.
KYAAAAH!
YEP. MY PARENTS HAVE HIM ACT LIKE A SPY AND FOLLOW ME.
UFUFU, IS THIS YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER?
GEEZ MASAYUKI, DON'T BE A NASTY KID!
I'M GOING TO TELL MAMA AND PAPA!
THANKS!
I GUESS I DO BELIEVE DEVIL CHILDREN EXIST IN THIS WORLD NOW.
IF YOU DON'T WANT ME TO TALK GIMME SOME CASH.

ウウウウ

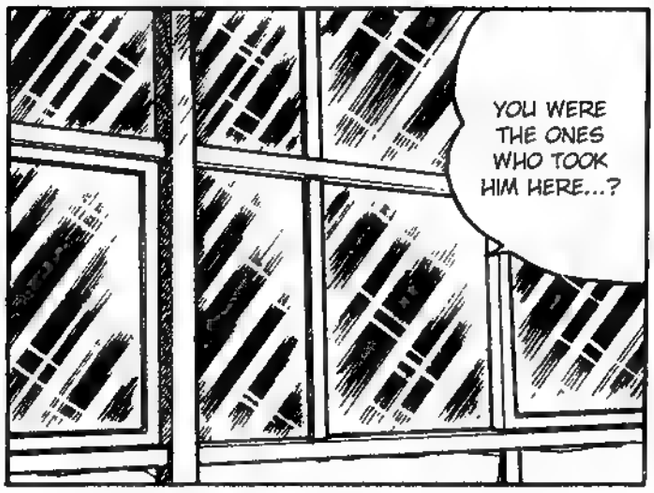
UUUUH...

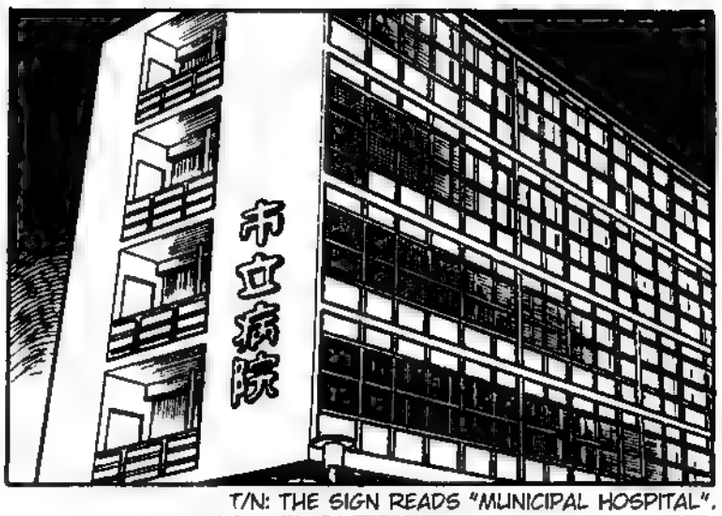
I'M SURE I HEARD A CHILD'S SCREAM.
OH, WHAT WAS THAT?

AH!

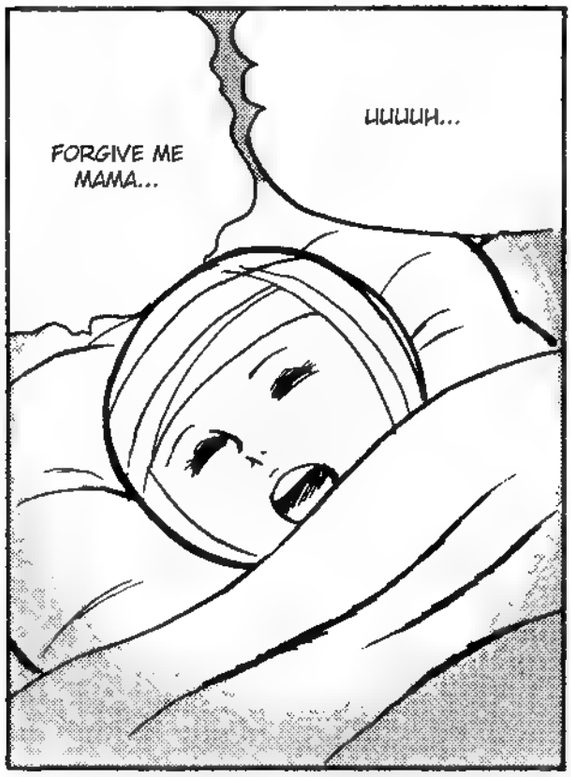
GOODNESS, WHAT'S THE MATTER?

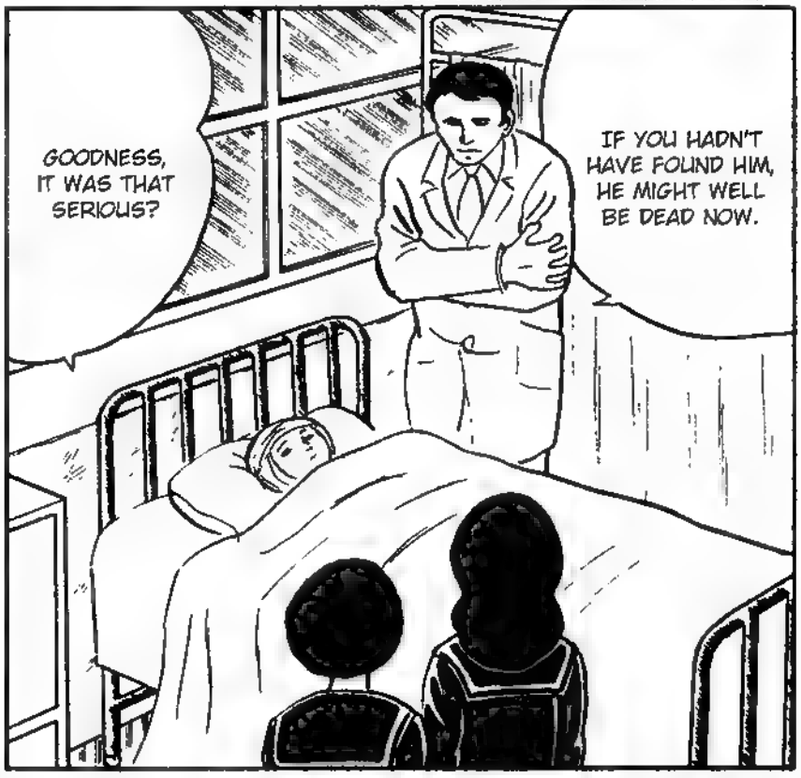
HANG IN THERE BOY!
HE'S A KID FROM THE NEIGHBOUR-HOOD.
THAT'S HIROSHI-CHAN?!
HE'S GOT SOME TERRIBLE INJURIES!
HAH?!
GOODNESS!
ARGH!
WE SHOULD GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT FIRST.
POOR THING. WHO COULD'VE DONE SOMETHING SO TERRIBLE TO HIM.
SCARY! SCARY!

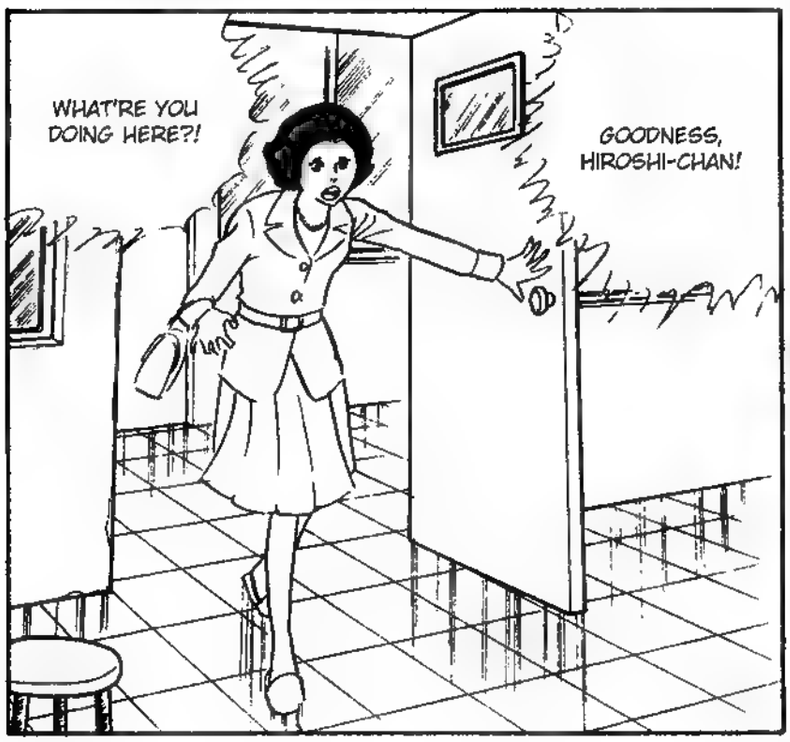




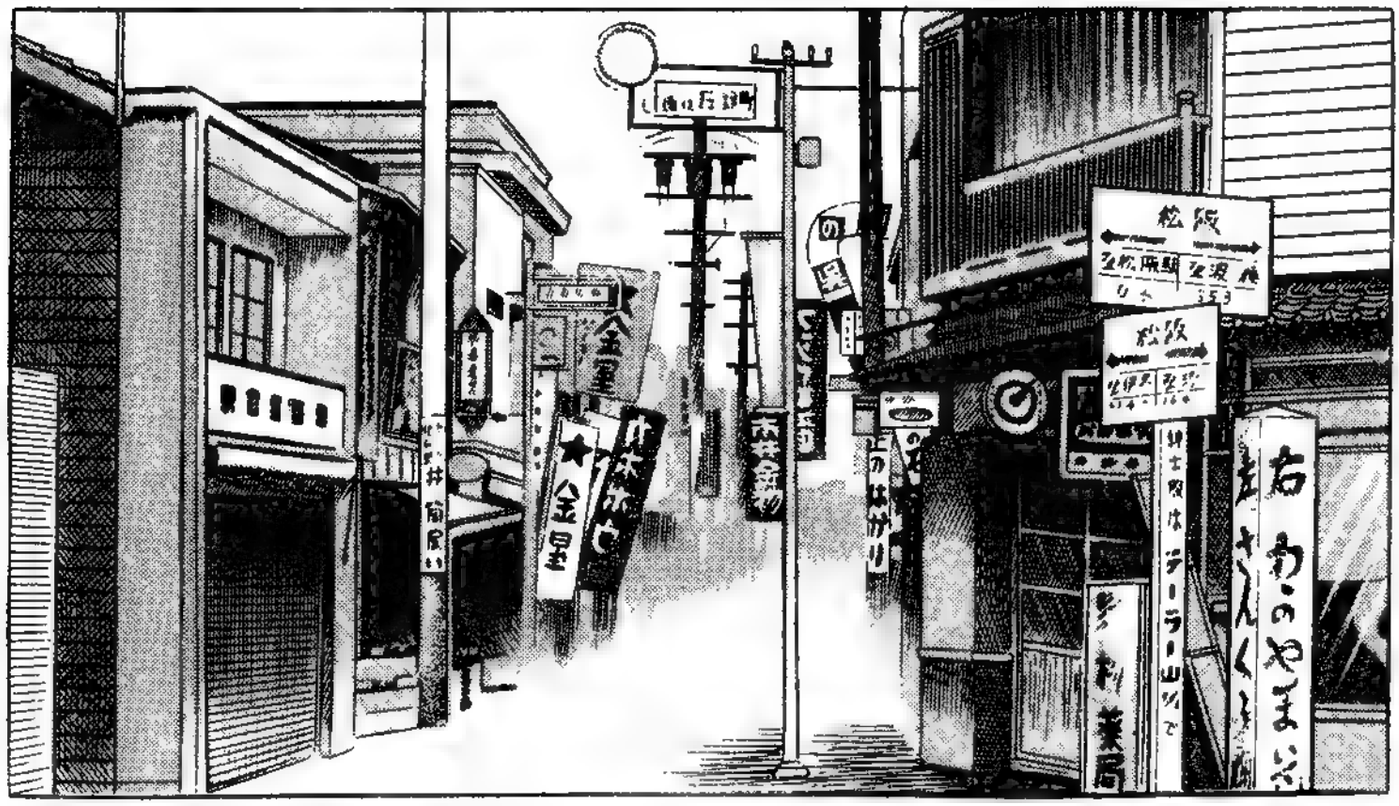
T/N: THE SIGN READS "MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL".







WHAT'RE YOU SAYING MADAM, HE'S IN A SERIOUS STATE...
EH?!
WHO WAS IT WHO JUST DECIDED TO BRING HIM HERE?!
THIS IS ALL A REALLY BIG NUISANCE TO ME!
HMPH! I KNOW, I CAN TELL THAT MUCH!
DON'T TALK BACK TO ME!
NO, I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME!
LET'S GET HOME.
MAMA!
MAMAAAA! FORGIVE MEEEE!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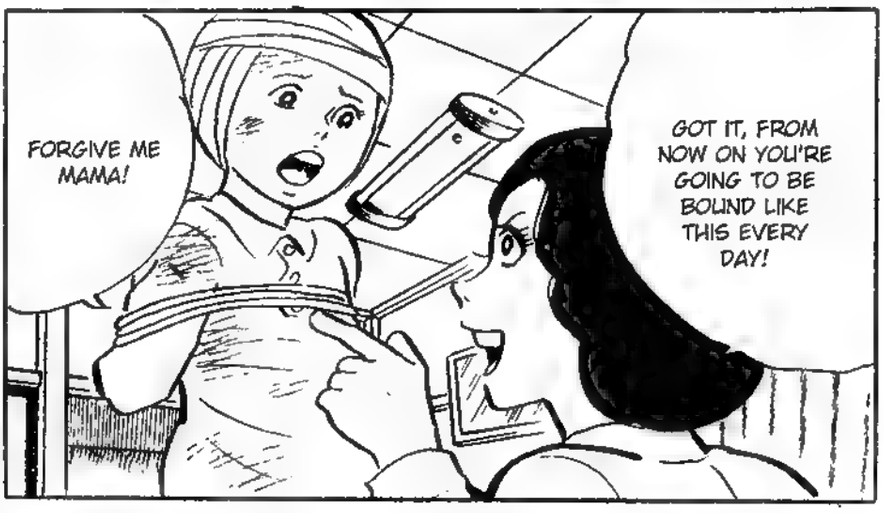
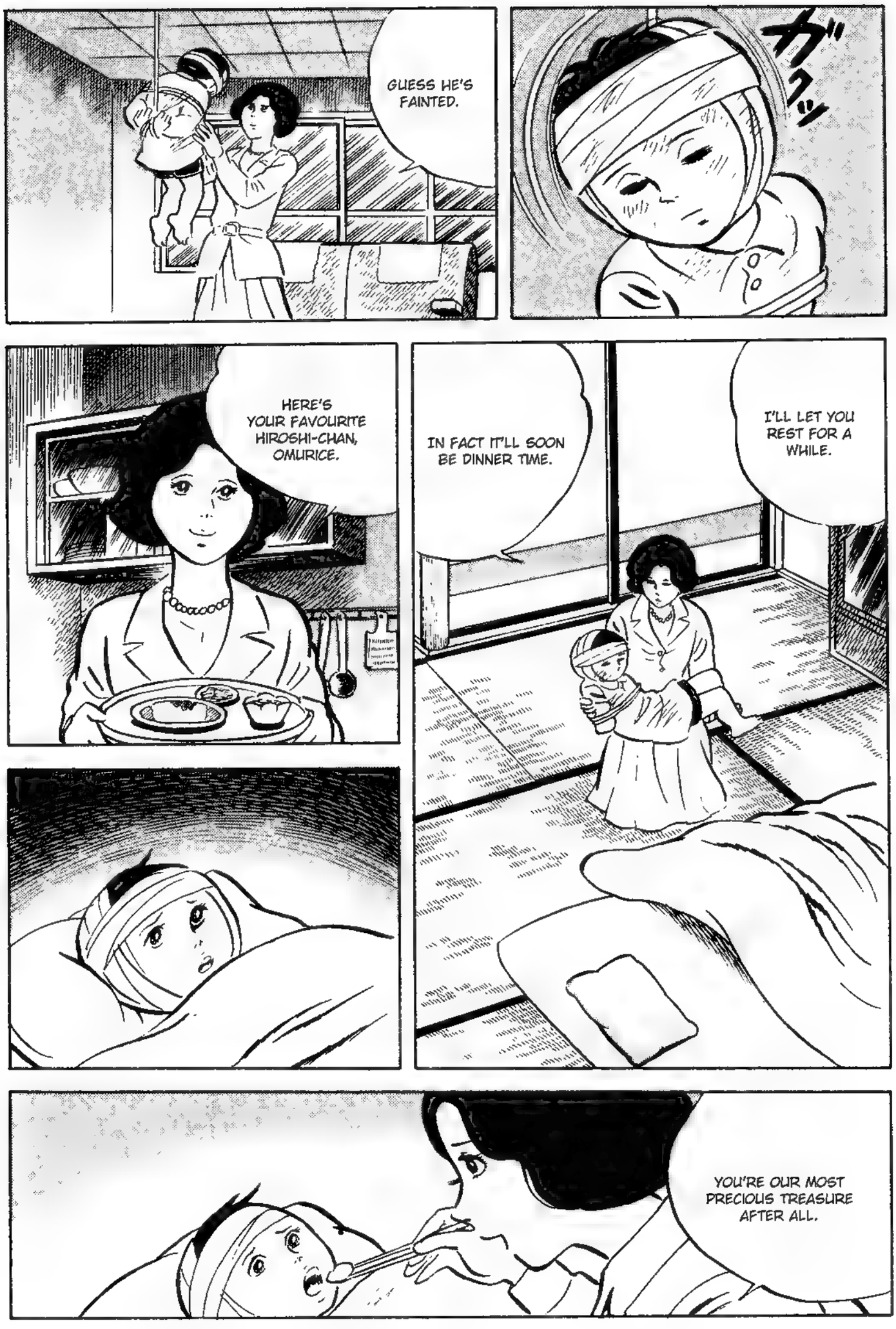
YOU WON'T ESCAPE THIS TIME!
AAAAAAAH!

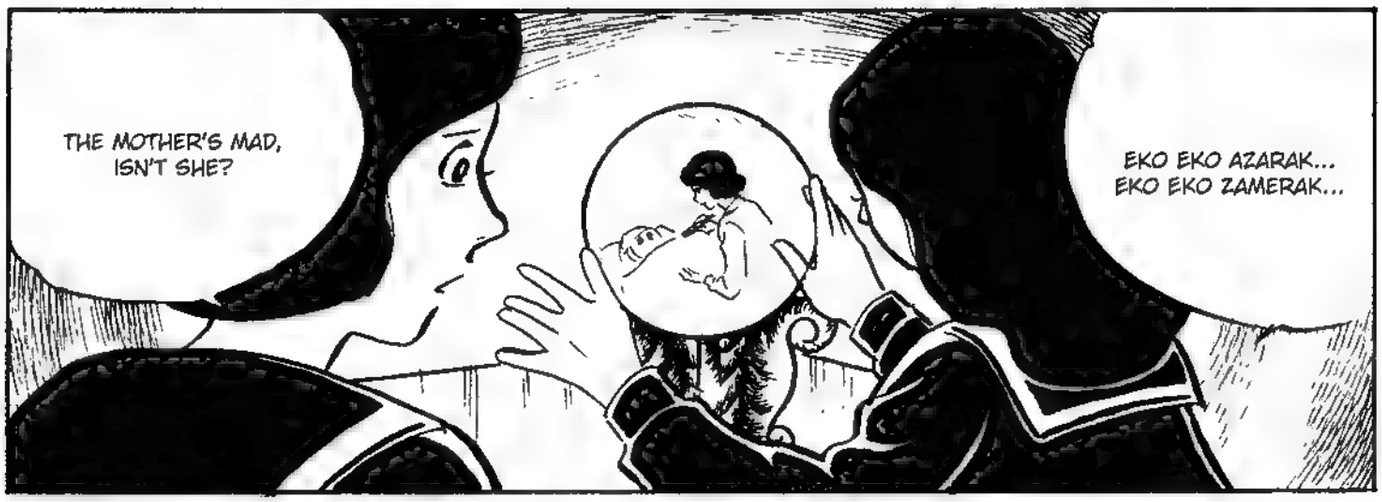
BUT YOU'VE NOT DONE ANYTHING WRONG.
FORGIVE YOU?


FORGIVE ME MAMA!
GOT IT, FROM NOW ON YOU'RE GOING TO BE BOUND LIKE THIS EVERY DAY!

OHOHOHO!
HOW'S THE PAIN?
MAMA JUST LIKES TO HEAR YOUR SCREAMS!
NOW CRY OUT MORE, MORE!


GUESS HE'S FAINTED.
ガクッ
HERE'S YOUR FAVOURITE HIROSHI-CHAN, OMURICE.
IN FACT IT'LL SOON BE DINNER TIME.
I'LL LET YOU REST FOR A WHILE.
YOU'RE OUR MOST PRECIOUS TREASURE AFTER ALL.

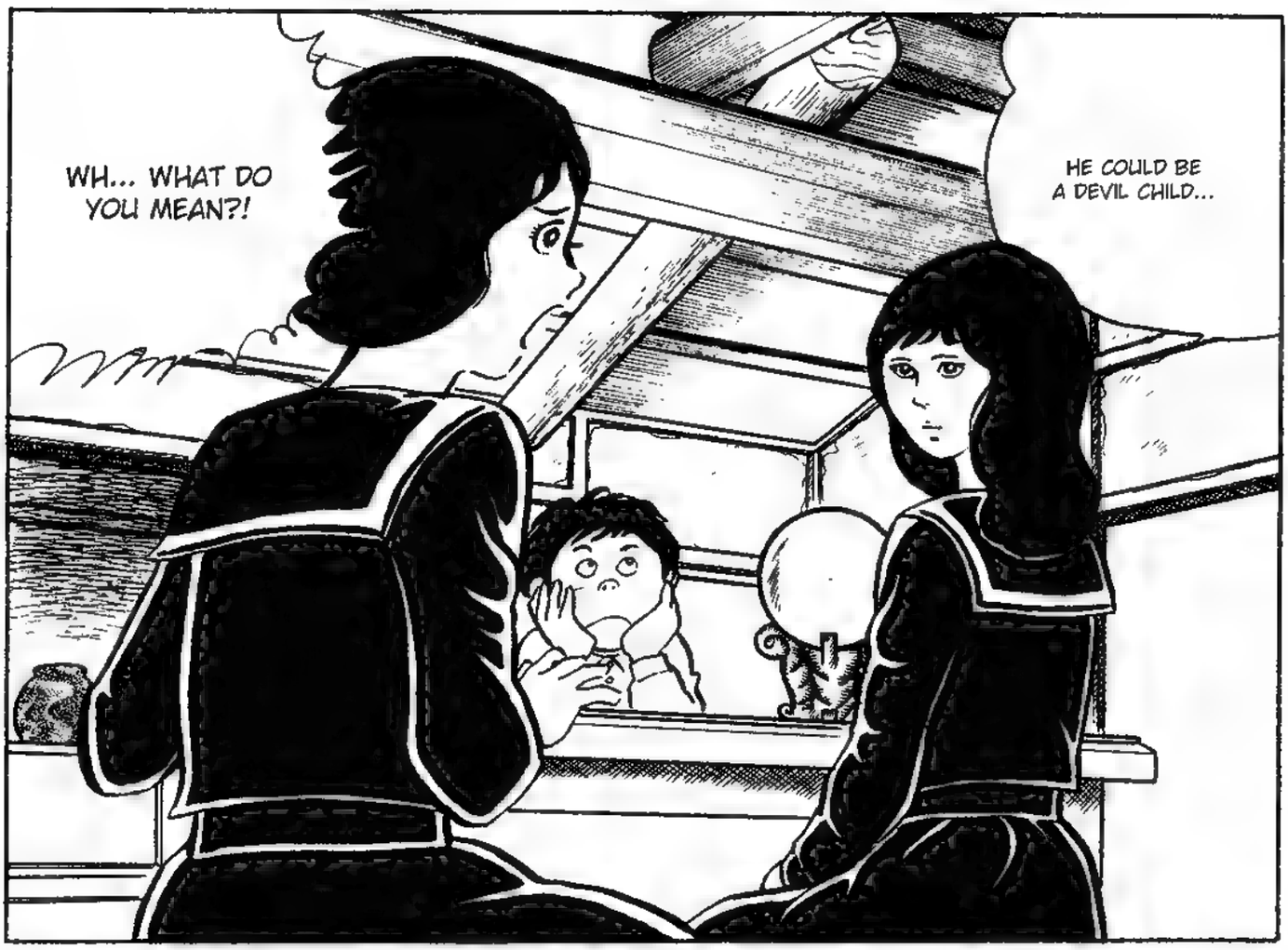
NOW EAT UP...


THE MOTHER'S MAD, ISN'T SHE?
EKO EKO AZARAK... EKO EKO ZAMERAK...

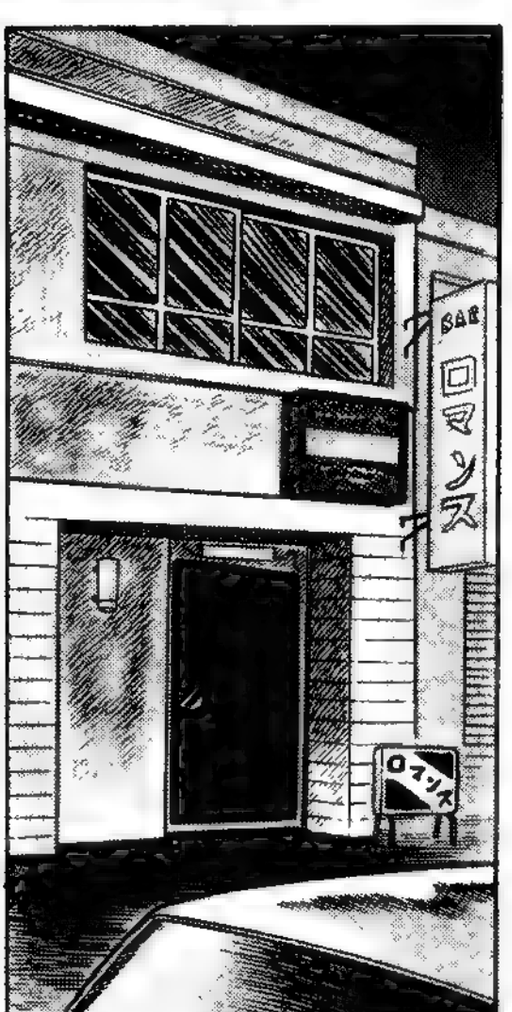
PERHAPS THERE IS A REASON.

EEEH?!

IT'S OBVIOUS ISN'T IT? SHE HAS TO BE TO PUNISH HER SON SO BADLY FOR NO REASON AT ALL.
YOU'RE ASKING IF... THE MOTHER'S MAD?


WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
HE COULD BE A DEVIL CHILD...

OH MY, OHOHOHO...


BAR
ロマンス
ロマンス

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU GOING ON ABOUT?
YOU'RE SPOT ON, OUR HIROSHI MIGHT WELL BE A DEVIL CHILD.

AS YOU CAN SEE, WE RUN A BAR AND BUSINESS IS FLOURISHING.
STRANGE GOINGS ON...?
SINCE WE ADPOTED HIM AT AGE THREE STRANGE GOINGS ON HAVE HAPPENED.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...
YET WHEN THAT CHILD ARRIVED, CUSTOMERS SUDDENLY DROPPED.
YET AS THE DAYS WENT ON, OUR CUSTOMERS KEPT DISAPPEARING.
OF COURSE I DIDN'T HAVE ANY STRANGE DOUBTS, TO START WITH.
GOODNESS!
AND AFTER A MONTH, NOT ONE SINGLE PERSON SHOWED UP!

FOR INSTANCE, ONE GUEST LOST HIS WALLET HEADING HOME...
AND THAT'S NOT ALL, RUMOURS BEGAN TO SPREAD THAT IF YOU DRANK AT OUR BAR, UNLUCKY THINGS WOULD BEFALL YOU.

THESE ARE ALL JUST COINCIDENCES.
WASN'T THAT JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE DRUNK?

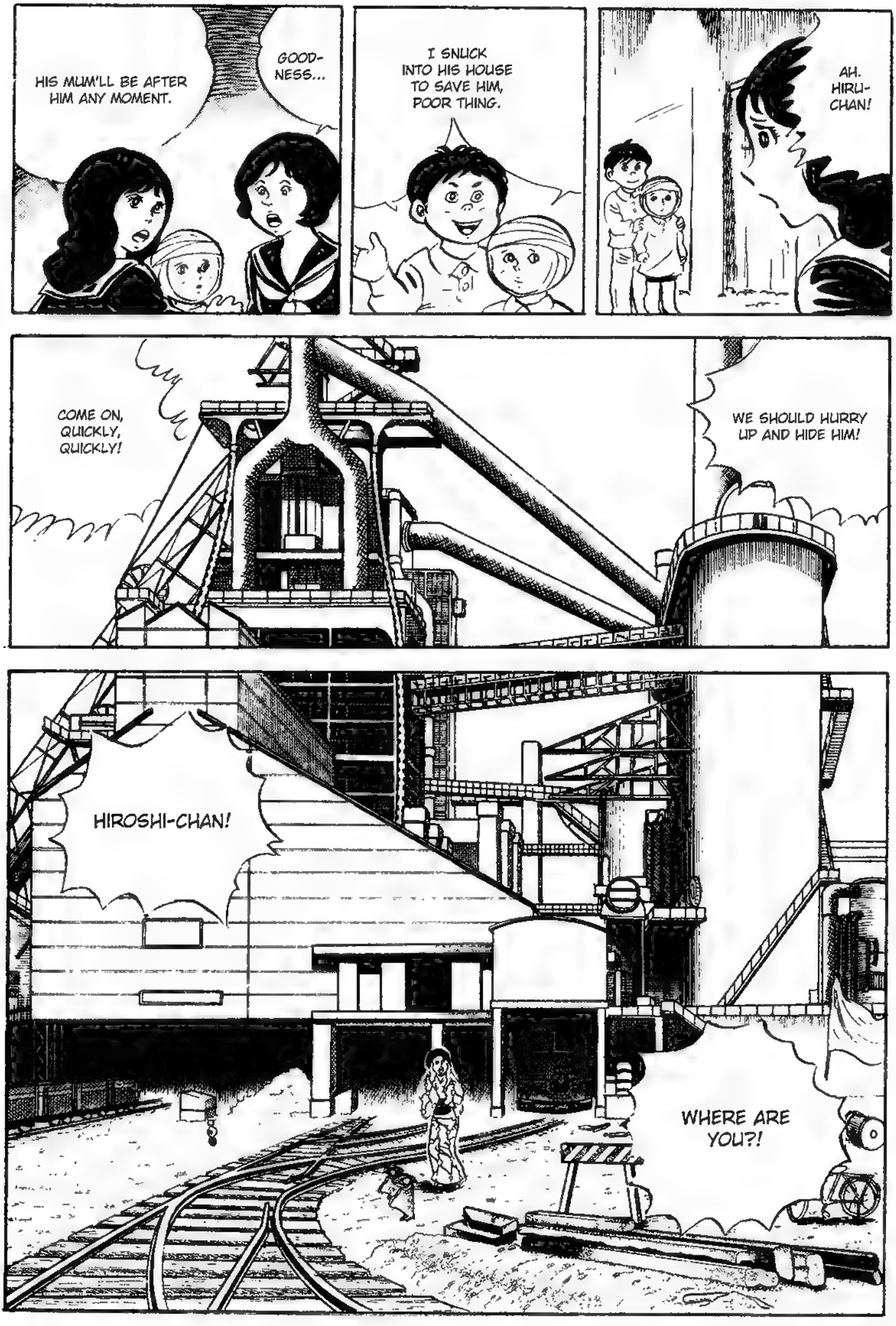
WHILE OTHERS WERE KILLED BY CARS!

BUSINESS WAS BAD, SO I BROKE OUT INTO HYSTERICS AND JUST...

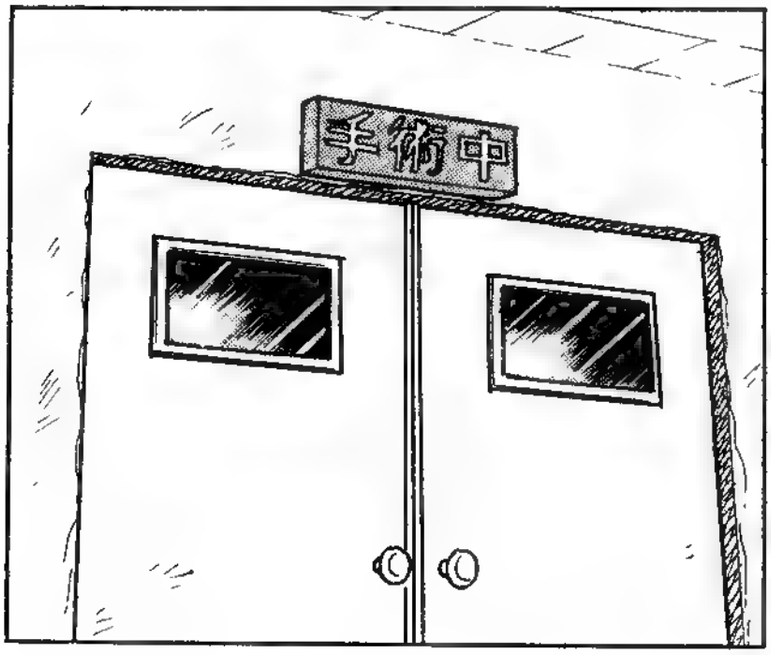
I WAS SCOLDING HIM FOR PLAYING WITH MATCHES...
EVEN SO, SOME TIME AFTER...

MAMA, I WON'T DO ANYTHING ANYMORE SO PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
ザアー
ザアー
HURRY UP AND GET LOST!
あぁ〜ん
ザッ
MAMA, OPEN UP!
バーン
BIZARRELY, PEOPLE SWARMED INTO OUR BAR THAT DAY!
IT HUUUURTS!
UUUH...
BECAUSE OF THAT HIROSHI CAME DOWN WITH A COLD BUT...
THAT CAN'T BE?!
IN SHORT, WHEN HE'S ILL, OR SUFFERING, WE'RE BLESSED WITH GOOD FORTUNE!
THE DAY AFTER THEY KEPT COMING TOO...

PLUS MY HUSBAND COLLAPSED FROM ILLNESS, AND OUR MISFORTUNES CONTINUED...
SO THEN HE'S IN HOSPITAL NOW?
AS PROOF, WHEN HIROSHI GOT BETTER, BUSINESS ONCE MORE SLOWED DOWN.
I WAS WHIPPING THE BOY IN ORDER THAT MY HUSBAND'S LIFE BE SAVED.
INDEED, IN FACT HE HAS IMPORTANT SURGERY TONIGHT.
THE FILM WOULDN'T HAVE ANY WORRIES.
STILL, THERE'S NO WAY A DARLING BOY LIKE THAT COULD BE A DEVIL CHILD.
THAT WAS REALLY BIZARRE.


HIS MUM'LL BE AFTER HIM ANY MOMENT.
GOOD-NESS...
I SNUCK INTO HIS HOUSE TO SAVE HIM, POOR THING.
AH. HIRU-CHAN!
COME ON, QUICKLY, QUICKLY!
WE SHOULD HURRY UP AND HIDE HIM!
HIROSHI-CHAN!
WHERE ARE YOU?!

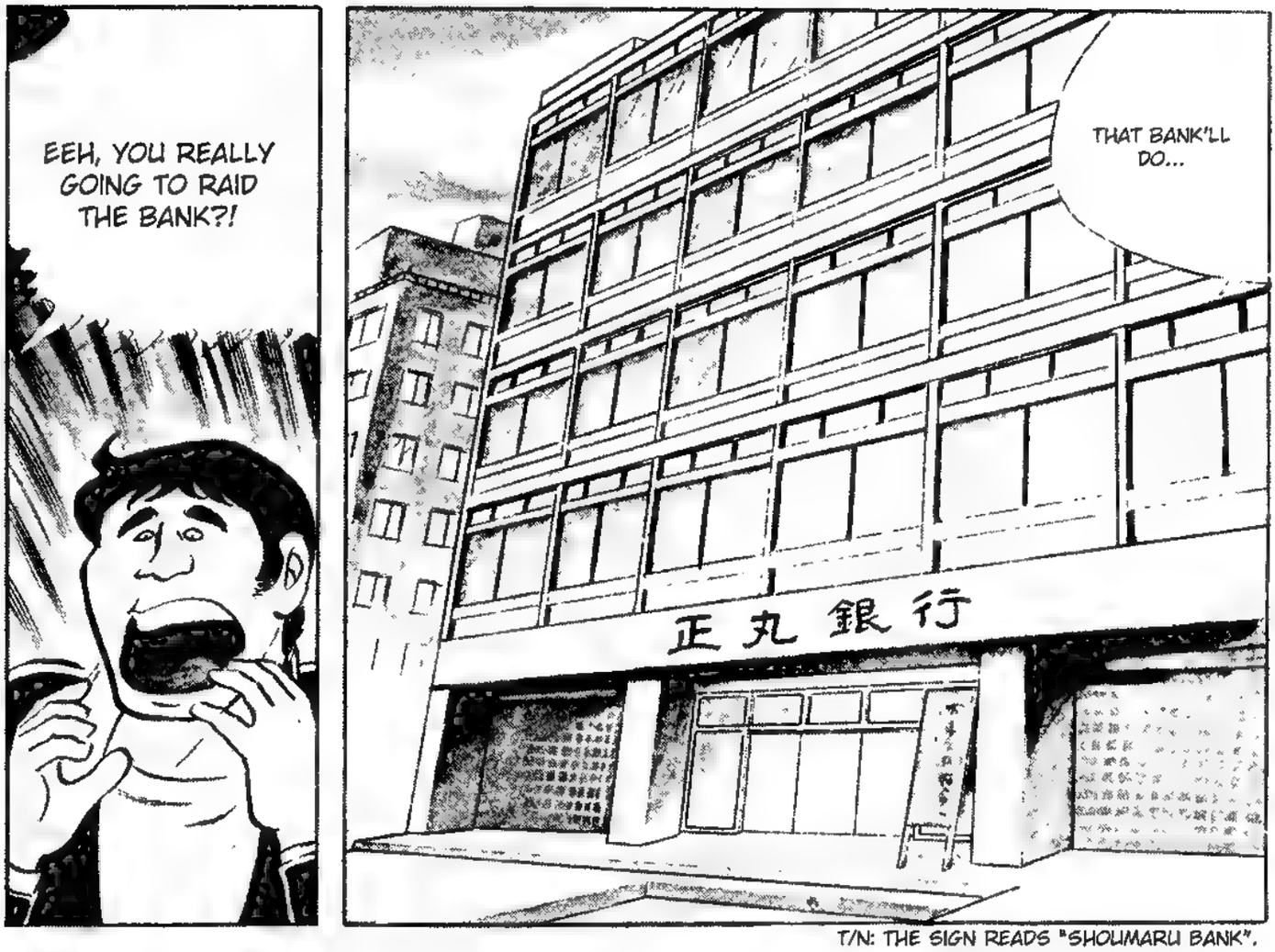
T/N: THE SIGN READS "SURGERY IN PROGRESS".



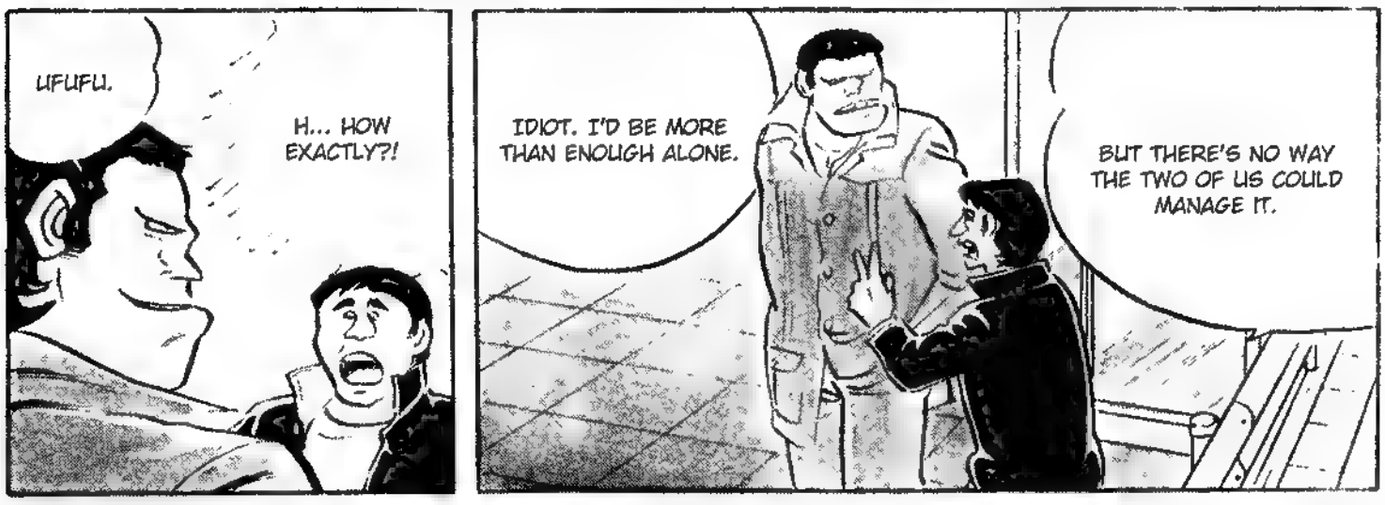
THE SURGERY WAS A SUCCESS.
REST AT EASE.
H... HOW ARE THINGS?!
ガチャ
THANK GOODNESS...
AAH...
R... REALLY?!
EH?!
UUH?!
MAYBE I'D BEEN THINKING ABOUT HIROSHI TOO MUCH...
AAAH!
MM, THINGS ARE FINE NOW. ALL WE NEED TO DO IS WAIT FOR MY RECOVERY.

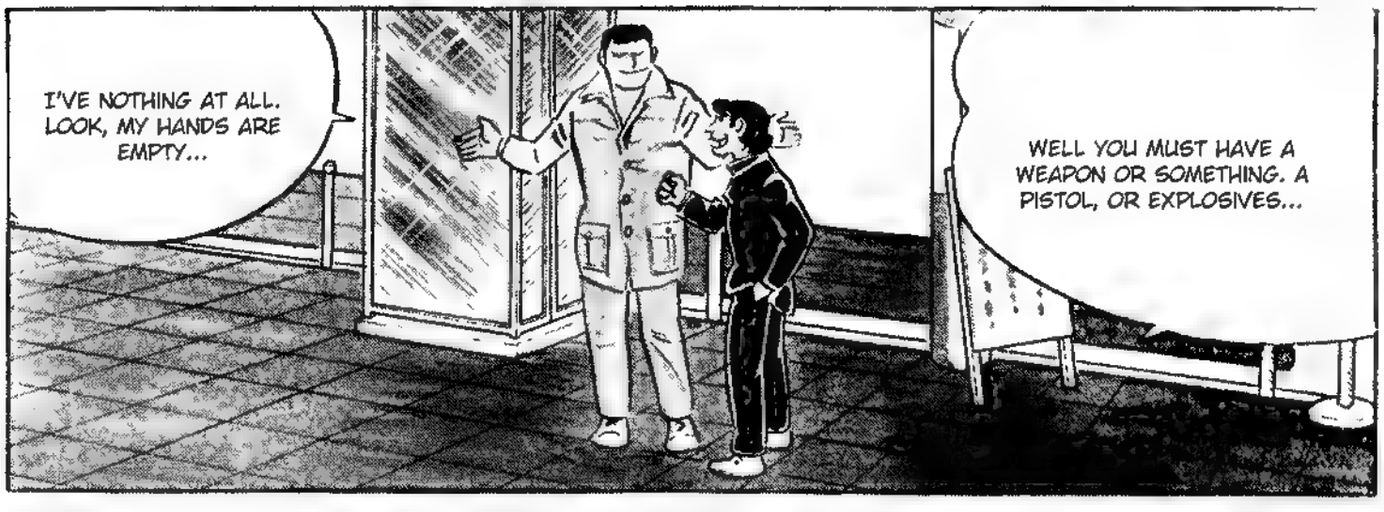
GYAAAH! TH... THE PAIN!
WH... WHAT'S WRONG DEAR?!
OH NO! THEN IN THE PATIENT'S BODY IS...!
WH... WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
S... SENSEI, WE'RE ONE SCALPEL SHORT!
AAAH, HE'S DEAD!

♣ A THREATENING LETTER, AND A LOVE LETTER

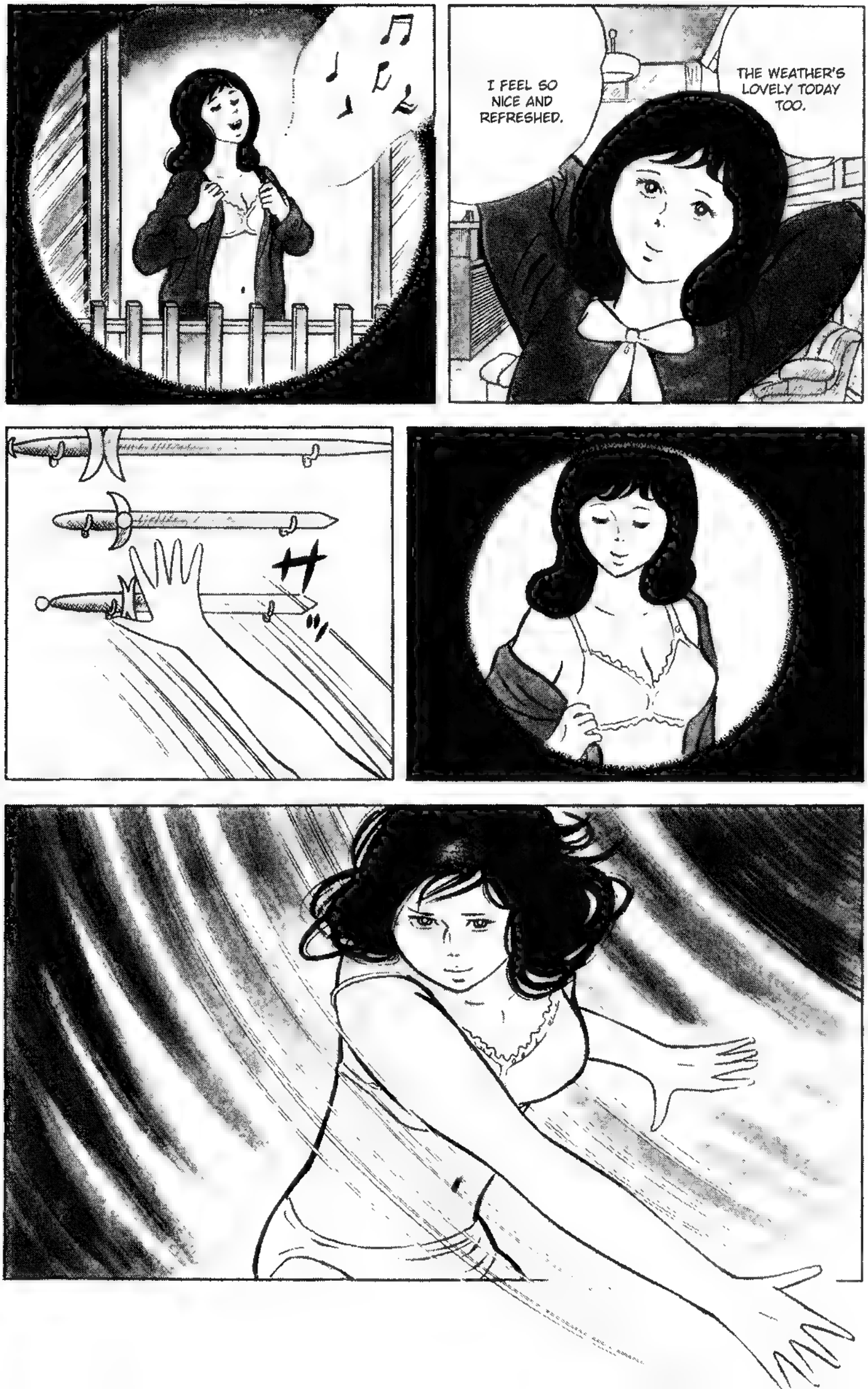


T/N: THE SIGN READS "SHOUMARU BANK".





WH... WHAT DOES IT SAY.
YEP. A SINGLE SHEET OF THIS PAPER WILL BE ENOUGH.
EEH, YOU'LL DO IT EMPTY HANDED?!
IT WAS SEVERAL DAYS AGO...
ALRIGHT, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED.
HEEH, IT IS...?
THAT'S THE STRONGEST WEAPON YOU COULD IMAGINE.
AAAAAAH!
ガラ

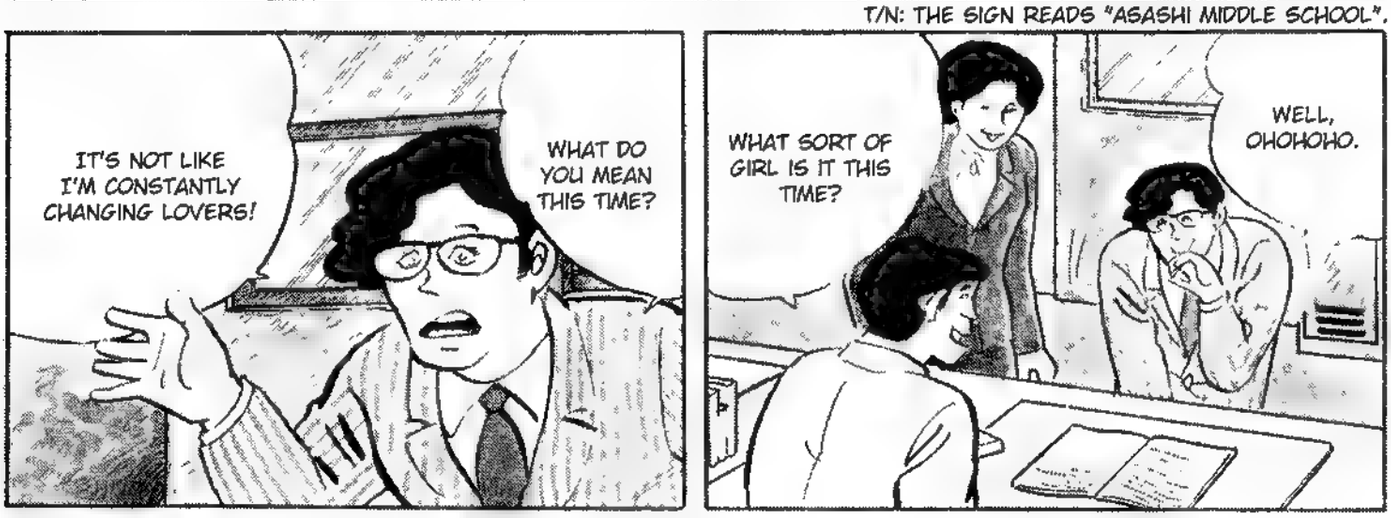

I FEEL SO NICE AND REFRESHED.
THE WEATHER'S LOVELY TODAY TOO.

EEEEP!
WAS THAT YAMANAKA-SENSEI PEEPING ON ME THROUGH A TELESCOPE...
NO WAY.
ペチャ
ペチャ
GOOD MORNING...
NOW, I'D BETTER GET A MOVE ON.
MEN SURE ARE PERVES...

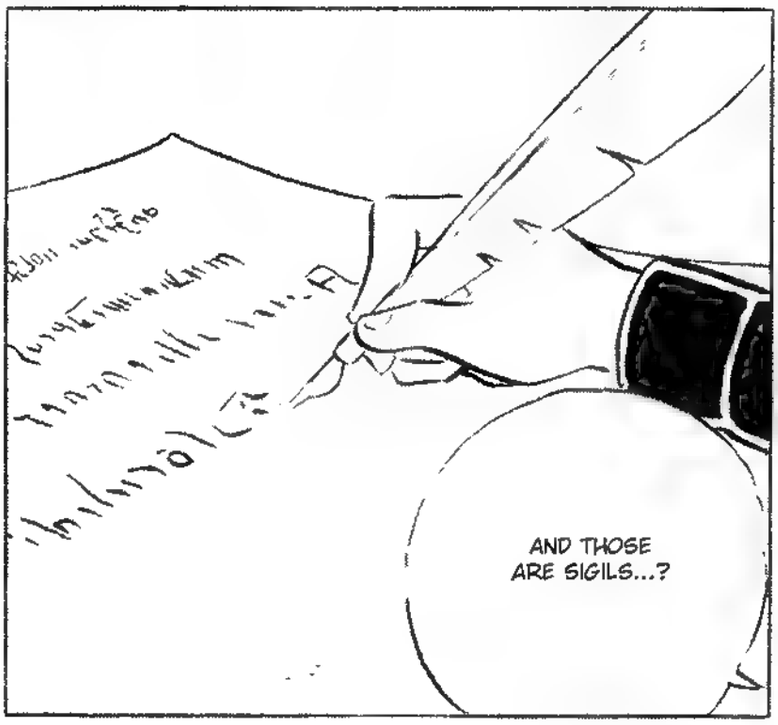
HMPH! I SAID HELLO TO THEM AND YET...
OH STOP IT MAEDA-KUN.
AHAHAHA.
WE SHOULD GO CYCLING NEXT TIME.
I HAD A LOT OF FUN YESTERDAY.
HEHEHE, DON'T YOU THINK YOURS TRULY IS A COOL GUY?
SHAME THERE ARE NO GOOD MEN AROUND.
I WANT A BOYFRIEND
AAAAAH, BORING.

TURNS OUT I WANT A CHICK TOO, SO HOW'S ABOUT IT?
YOU SEEM IN A GOOD MOOD YAMANAKA-SENSEI.
THAT'S TRUE, YOU GOT A DATE OR SOMETHING.
旭中学校

T/N: THE SIGN READS "ASASHI MIDDLE SCHOOL".



WHO KNOWS WHEN I'LL GET MARRIED.
I WONDER WHAT IT IS THAT MAKES WOMEN DISLIKE ME SO.
IT'S JSUT THAT I'M ONLY EVER GETTING DUMPED.
I GUESS THAT WAS QUITE RUDE...
A LOVE LETTER?
WHY NOT HAVE KUROI-KUN WRITE A LOVE LETTER FOR YOU?
IT'S PROBABLY MAGIC OR SOMETHING...
THEY SAY THAT IF SHE WRITES FOR YOU, YOU'LL MYSTERIOUSLY HAVE YOUR WISHES GRANTED.
HMM...
TAKE A LOOK OUTSIDE. RECENTLY LOTS OF COUPLES HAVE POPPED UP, AND IT'S THANKS TO HER.


AND THOSE ARE SIGILS...?

I SEE, SO SHE WRITES UNDER THE LIGHT OF A MAGIC LAMP...

MM. BUT WHILE THEY CAN'T READ IT, IT'LL DEFINITELY GET THROUGH TO THE OTHER PERSON'S HEART.
THERE'S NO WAY ANYONE ELSE COULD READ THIS RIGHT?

GOODNESS, YOU DO YAMANAKA-SENSEI?
AMAZING. COULD YOU WRITE ONE FOR ME, THERE'S SOMETHING I'M AFTER.

CORRECT.
SO THEY'RE A FORM OF SUGGESTION?

PLEASE, THIS IS FOR A LIFELONG WISH OF MINE!

FINE, BUT IT'LL NEED TO BE AFTER SCHOOL.

...
BUT WE'VE A PROBLEM, I'VE SO MANY ORDERS I WON'T BE ABLE TO WRITE THEM ALL.

OUH! GIMME ONE TOO PLEASE!

IT WOULDN'T BE OUT OF THE QUESTION.
YOU CAN GET THAT WITH YOUR MAGIC RIGHT?
I WAS JOKING BEFORE. I WANT MONEY MORE THAN A GIRL.

URGH, A NASTY GUY'S TURNED UP AGAIN...

A... A THREATENING LETTER?!
THEN FORGET A LOVE LETTER, MAKE ME A THREATENING ONE!

THEY DO BUT...
I MEAN, DON'T THOSE SIGILS MAKE THE OTHER PERSON ACT ACCORDING TO WHAT YOU WANT?

I...
I COULD NEVER DO THAT!
PUT DOWN SOMETHING LIKE "IF YOU DON'T GIMME THE CASH... YOU'LL DIE." OKAY, KUROI?

EEK!
DON'T COMPLAIN! JUST WRITE DOWN THE DAMN WORDS!

R... RIGHT.
ANSWER ME!

LISTEN. YOU'D BETTER FINISH IT BY THE TIME SCHOOL CLOSES.

TCH, CLASS TIME EH.

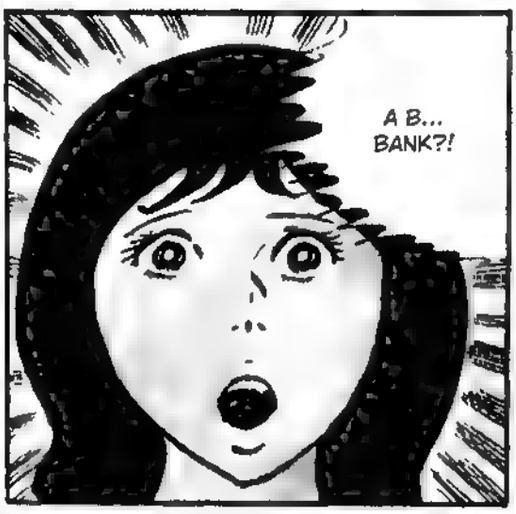
ウウウ
COME ON, WAKE UP KUROI-SAN.
ゴロゴロゴロゴロ
THAT DAY AFTER SCHOOL...
OI, MISA KUROI. I'M HERE TOO.
DID YOU GET MY LOVE LETTER?
AAH, I SURE AM TIRED...
THANK YOU EVER SO MUCH, I'LL BE ABLE TO HAVE A PASSIONATE ROMANCE WITH HER.
YES, HERE YOU TWO GO.

USHISHISHIH...

AFTER ALL THIS WORLD RUNS ON MONEY! WITH MONEY YOU CAN HAVE ALL THE WOMEN YOU WANT!
TCH. FORGET WOMEN!

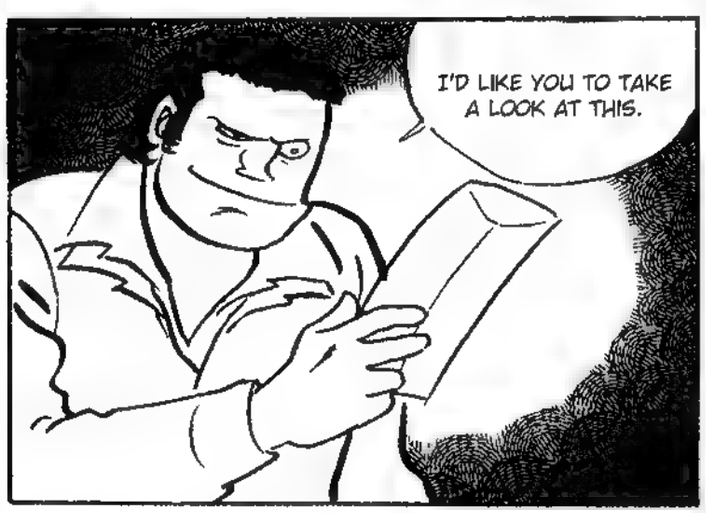
KAKAKA!

A BANK WITH TONS OF CASH!
SO WHAT EXACTLY WILL YOU USE THE THREAT ON?


A B... BANK?!

HOW MANY TIMES I GOTTA TELL YOU? THIS THREATENING LETTER'S BETTER THAN ANYTHING...
UFUFUFU...
BUT IF YOU'RE GONNA ROB A TON OF CASH YOU'RE GONNA NEED SOME SORT OF WEAPON...
AND THAT'S WHAT HAP-PENED
正丸銀行
FUFUFU, JUST WAIT AND SEE.
I'M KINDA WORRIED.
DON'T PUSSY OUT!
THERE'S AN AWFUL LOT OF CUSTOMERS EDA-SAN.
JUST ACT ALL CONFIDENT, LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO DROP CASH OFF.

AWAWAWAH...
OKAY, COMMENCE OPERATION!

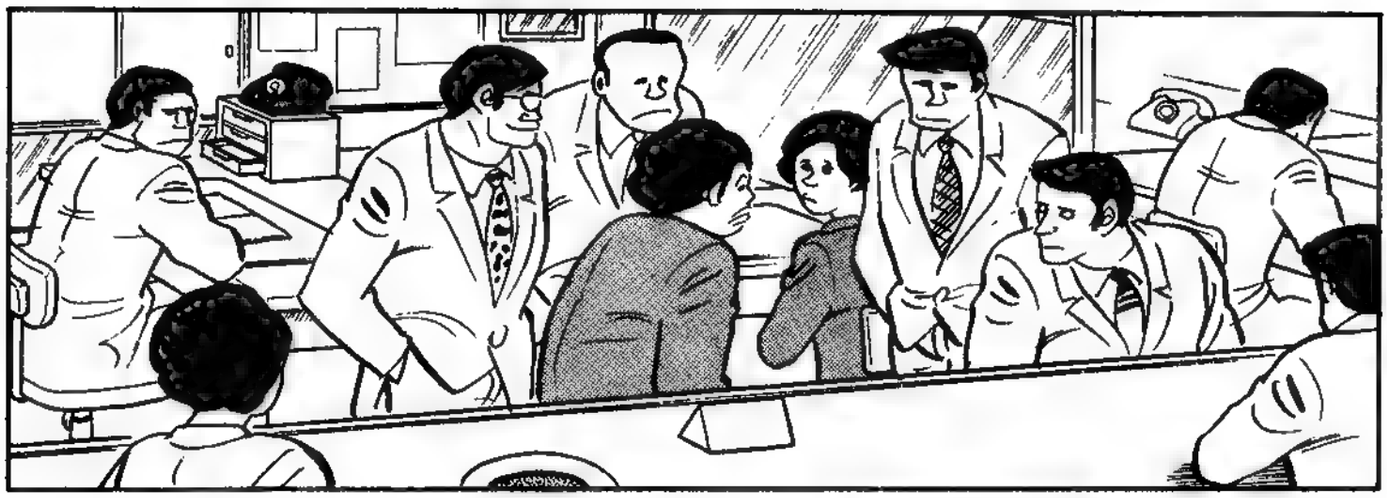

I'D LIKE YOU TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS.

WELCOME.

HAAH...?

!
PLEASE, DON'T JOKE AROUND.
OH MY...
EH?!
NO I'M DEADLY SERIOUS.
UNTIL YOU CLOSE UP?
VERY WELL, COULD YOU WAIT UNTIL WE CLOSE UP FOR THE DAY?

ALRIGHT, I'LL WAIT AROUND HERE. BEST OF LUCK.
R... RIGHT.
I GET IT, SHE'S NOT GOT THE CHANCE TO HAND ME THE MONEY RIGHT NOW.
MM. MIGHT AS WELL KICK BACK AND READ SOME MANGA.
SO WE'VE AN HOUR LEFT...
OF COURSE. THAT FEMALE BANK TELLER'S GONNA GET ALL THE MONEY READY BY CLOSING.
IT GO WELL BRO?
CHAMPION'S PRETTY DAMN FUNNY...
UFUFUFU...
WHAT?!
S... SOMETHING SEEMS A LITTLE OFF BRO!



SHIT!
COULD BE OUR IMAGINATION, BUT SOMETHING SEEMS BAD.

MAYBE THEY FOUND OUT SHE WAS GONNA ROB THE MONEY.

AH! THERE SHE IS, ON HER OWN!

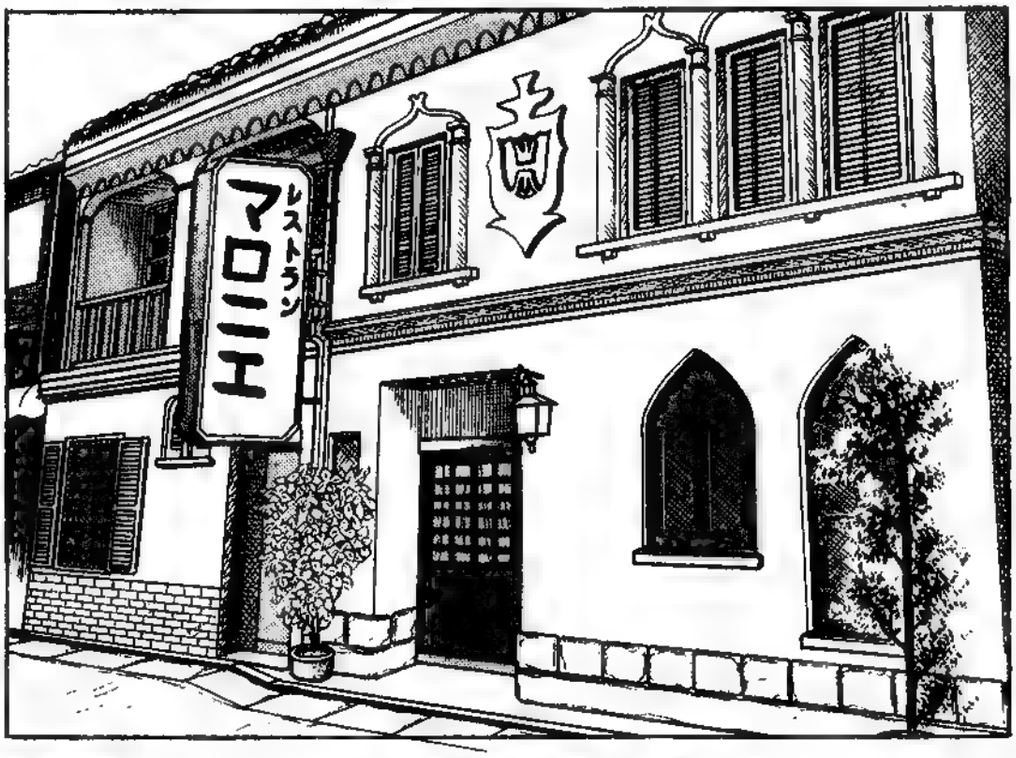
HEY, HOLD IT!

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING...
EH? WH... WHERE TO.
LET'S GET GOING.
I GET IT. IT'D BE INCONVENIENT HERE WITH TOO MANY EYES.
OH YOU. SOMEWHERE QUIET, WITH FEW PEOPLE.
THIS SHOULD DO, THE MOOD'S JUST RIGHT...
YEP, IT'S PERFECT FOR A DEAL.

DON'T PLAY DUMB. JUST BRING IT OUT ALREADY, I'M IN HURRY!
A DEAL?
COME ON, QUICKLY GET THE MONEY OUT! THE MONEY!
WH... WHAT?!
JUST EMBRACE ME ALREADY!
YOU'RE CERTAINLY A JOKER!
EEEEEEK!
YOU SHOULDN'T KEEP A WOMAN WAITING TOO LONG!

AAAARGH! S... SOMEONE HELP MEEE!
IT WAS WORTH IT STAYNG ALONE TO THIS AGE!
?
ガァア
I LOVE YOU SO MUCH I COULD DIE!
GOODNESS, THAT SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED.
OI, KUROI. WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!

T/N: THE SIGN READS "RESTAURANT MAKRONIE".

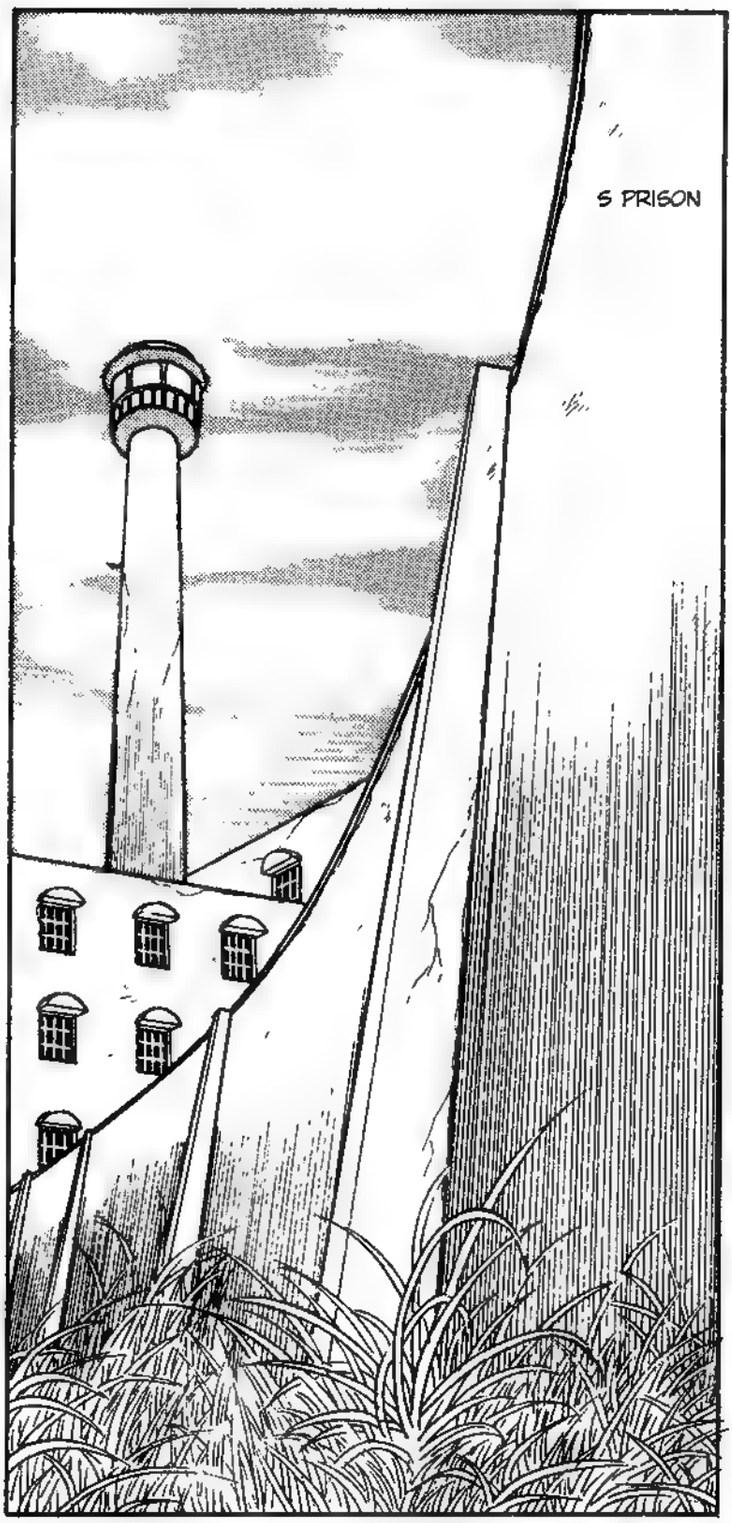


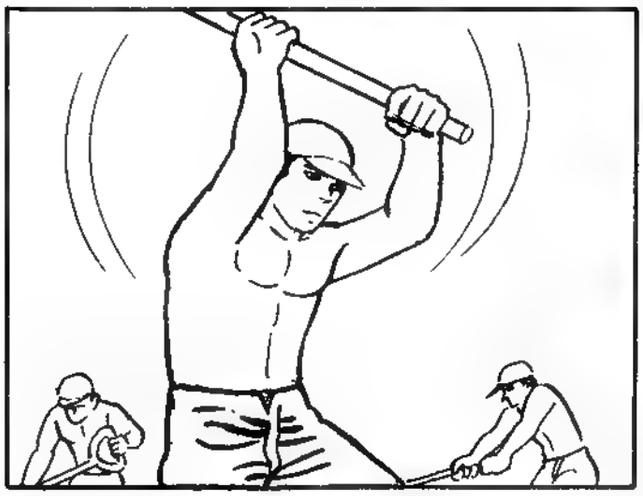
KYAAAAH!
?
S... SORRY. TH... THIS IS ALL I HAVE ON ME!
WH... WHAT'S WRONG AKIKO-SAN...?
ガタガタ

PLEASE WAIT!
A... AKIKO-SAN!
SCREAMING FOR?
WHAT ON EARTH WAS SHE...
KYAAAAH!
IT WAS AS WE THOUGHT.

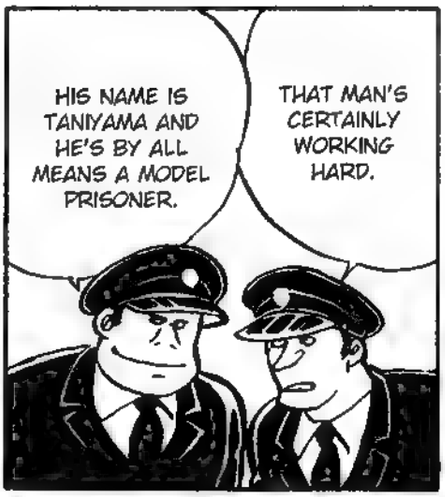
♣エコエコ　　アザラク♣

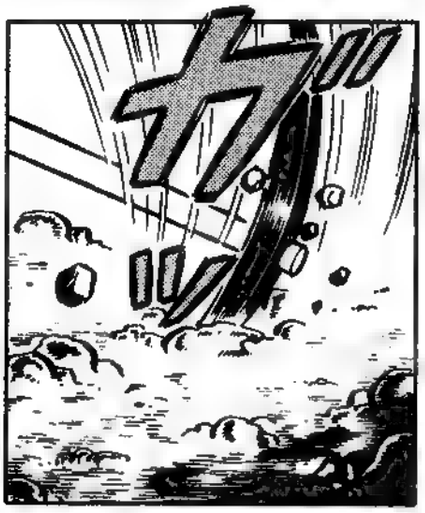
A TIGER AND SOME THIEVES


S PRISON



LUNCHTIME!
ALRIGHT, TAKE A BREAK!


HIS NAME IS TANIYAMA AND HE'S BY ALL MEANS A MODEL PRISONER.
THAT MAN'S CERTAINLY WORKING HARD.



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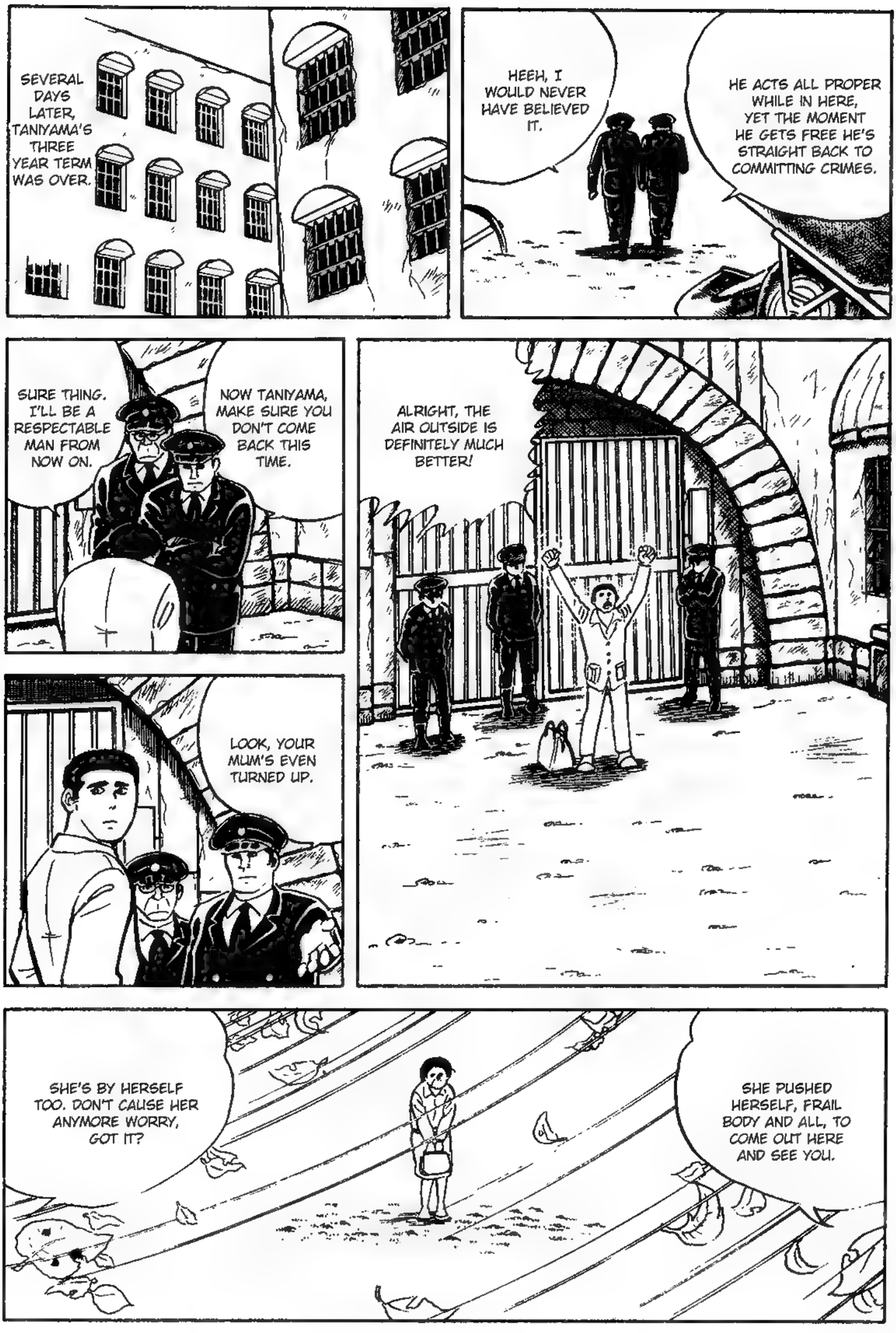
YEAH, HE'S PRETTY POPULAR AMONGST THE INMATES...
I GET A NICE, HUMANE IMPRESSION FROM HIM.
HEEH, A NICE LOOKING MAN LIKE THAT...
YET DESPITE APPEARANCES HE'S COMMITTED ROBBERY, BLACKMAIL, ASSAULT AND FRAUD...
I GUESS YOU CAN'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER.
HE'S SPENT MUCH OF HIS LIFE BEHIND BARS.
A YOUNG MAN LIKE THAT HAS SO MANY?!
HE'S A SCOUNDREL WITH A GOOD FIVE PAST OFFENSES.

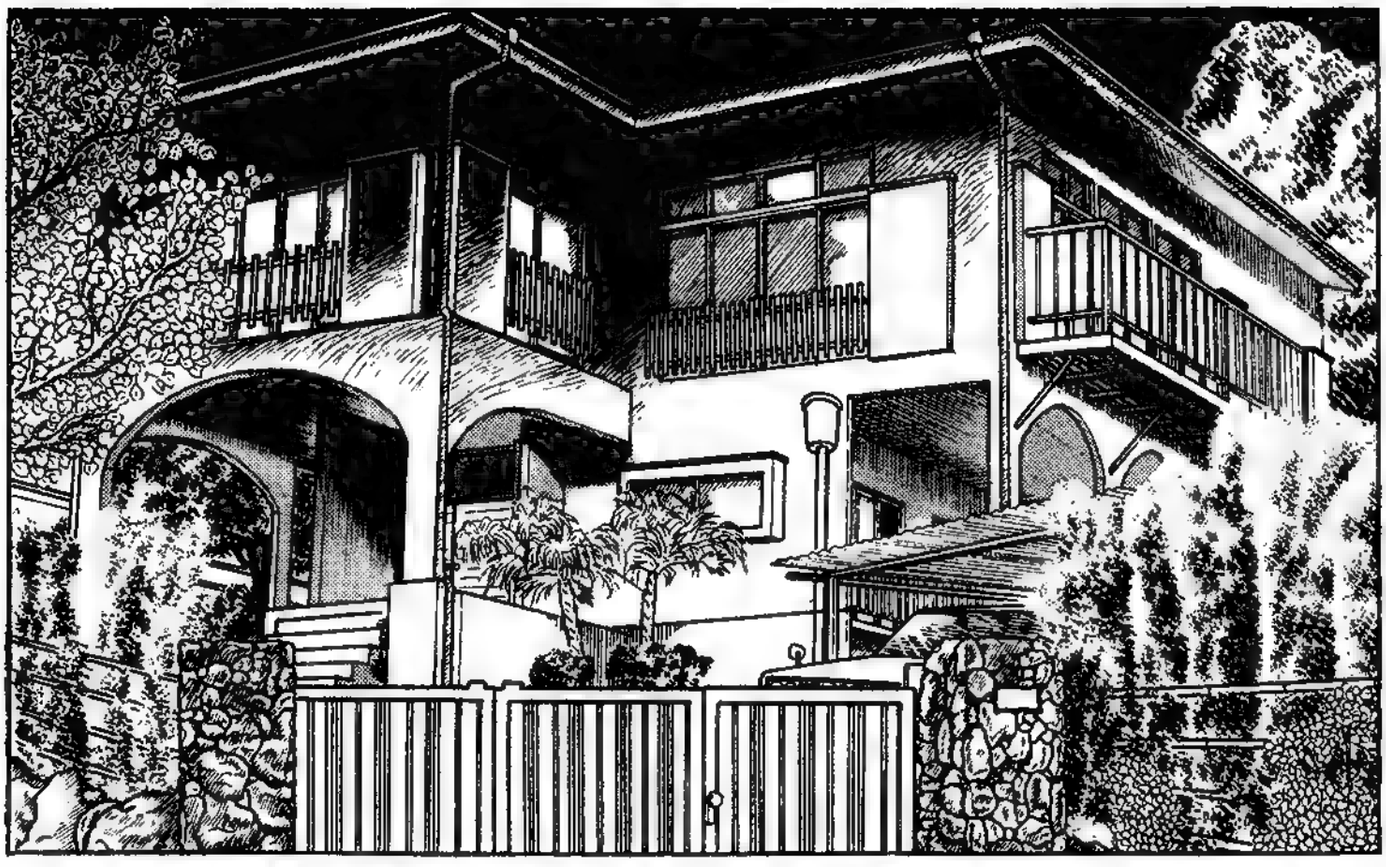

SEVERAL DAYS LATER, TANIYAMA'S THREE YEAR TERM WAS OVER.
HEEH, I WOULD NEVER HAVE BELIEVED IT.
HE ACTS ALL PROPER WHILE IN HERE, YET THE MOMENT HE GETS FREE HE'S STRAIGHT BACK TO COMMITTING CRIMES.
SURE THING. I'LL BE A RESPECTABLE MAN FROM NOW ON.
NOW TANIYAMA, MAKE SURE YOU DON'T COME BACK THIS TIME.
ALRIGHT, THE AIR OUTSIDE IS DEFINITELY MUCH BETTER!
LOOK, YOUR MUM'S EVEN TURNED UP.
SHE'S BY HERSELF TOO. DON'T CAUSE HER ANYMORE WORRY, GOT IT?
SHE PUSHED HERSELF, FRAIL BODY AND ALL, TO COME OUT HERE AND SEE YOU.

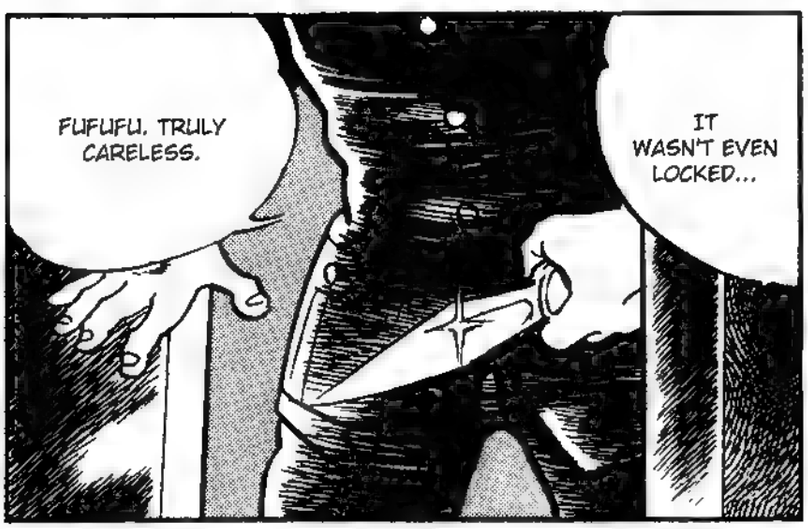
ALRIGHT, I DEFINITELY WILL BECOME A TRUE, UPSTANDING CITIZEN.
...
NOBUO...
MOTHER.
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.
WELL, I'M NOT SO SURE...
YOU KNOW, I THINK TANIYAMA MIGHT WELL HAVE HAD A COMPLETE CHANGE OF HEART THIS TIME.

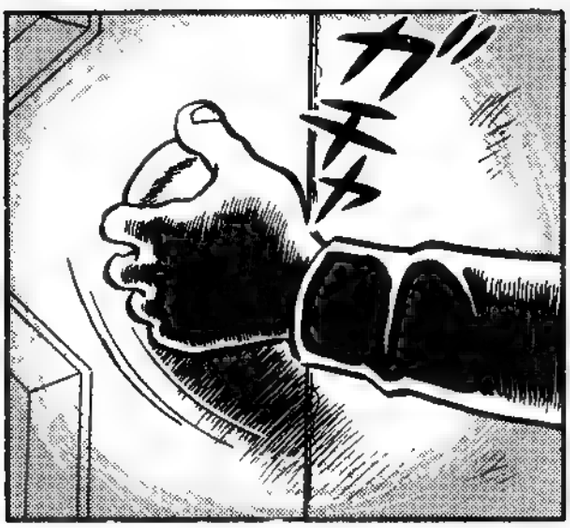
EEH?!
HE'S ONLY SHOWING REGRET ON THE OUTSIDE, HE'S BOUND TO STEAL AGAIN!
I'VE SEEN HIM RELEASED THREE TIMES ALREADY!
A BIT MORE TO THE RIGHT, BRO.
THAT'S THE HOUSE...
HOHOUH!

OH. THERE'S A CUTE GIRL STUDYING IN IT.
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN, IT'S A REAL PRICEY RESIDENCE.
I BET THEY'VE ALL SORTS OF VALUABLES.
OH THAT'LL BE FINE, SEE FOR WHATEVER REASON SHE'S ALWAYS BY HERSELF.
数学
ALRIGHT, WE'LL BREAK IN TONIGHT.
I'VE BEEN SCOPING THEM OUT FOR A GOOD MONTH NOW.

T/N: THE BOOK READS "MATHEMATICS".




FUFUFU. TRULY CARELESS.
IT WASN'T EVEN LOCKED...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UFUFU. JUST WATCH.
I'M QUITE GOOD WHEN IT COMES TO TAMING DOGS.

HMPH! I'LL DEAL WITH IT.
THEY'VE A GUARD DOG BRO!

UUUH!
HM?!

ガオー

IT'S... IT'S A TIGER!

GYAAAAAH!

I'LL TRY AND USE MEAT, SAME AS I WOULD FOR A DOG.
I... I KNOW.
W... WE NEED TO QUIETEN IT DOWN OR ELSE BRO.
ウオオッ
ピピピピ
ピ
COME ON, I'VE SOME NICE RAW MEAT.
ピピィィー
EAT UP, IT'S DELICIOUS. THERE, THERE.

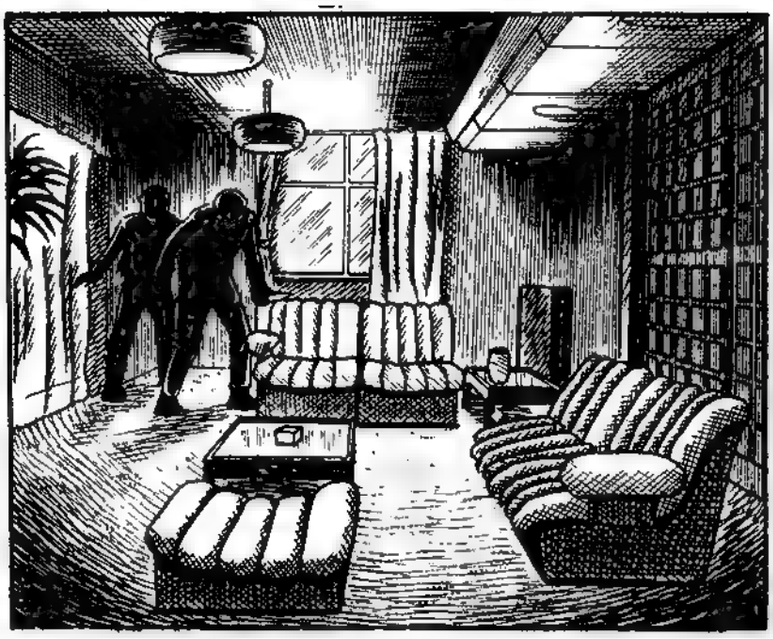
NOW, HAVE SOME MORE!
IT ATE IT!
OKAY, WITH THIS THINGS SHOULD BE SORTED.
SEEMS HE HAS.
LOOK. HE'S SOFTENED UP TO ME.
SEE, I CAN TOUCH HIM AND HE WON'T DO A THING.

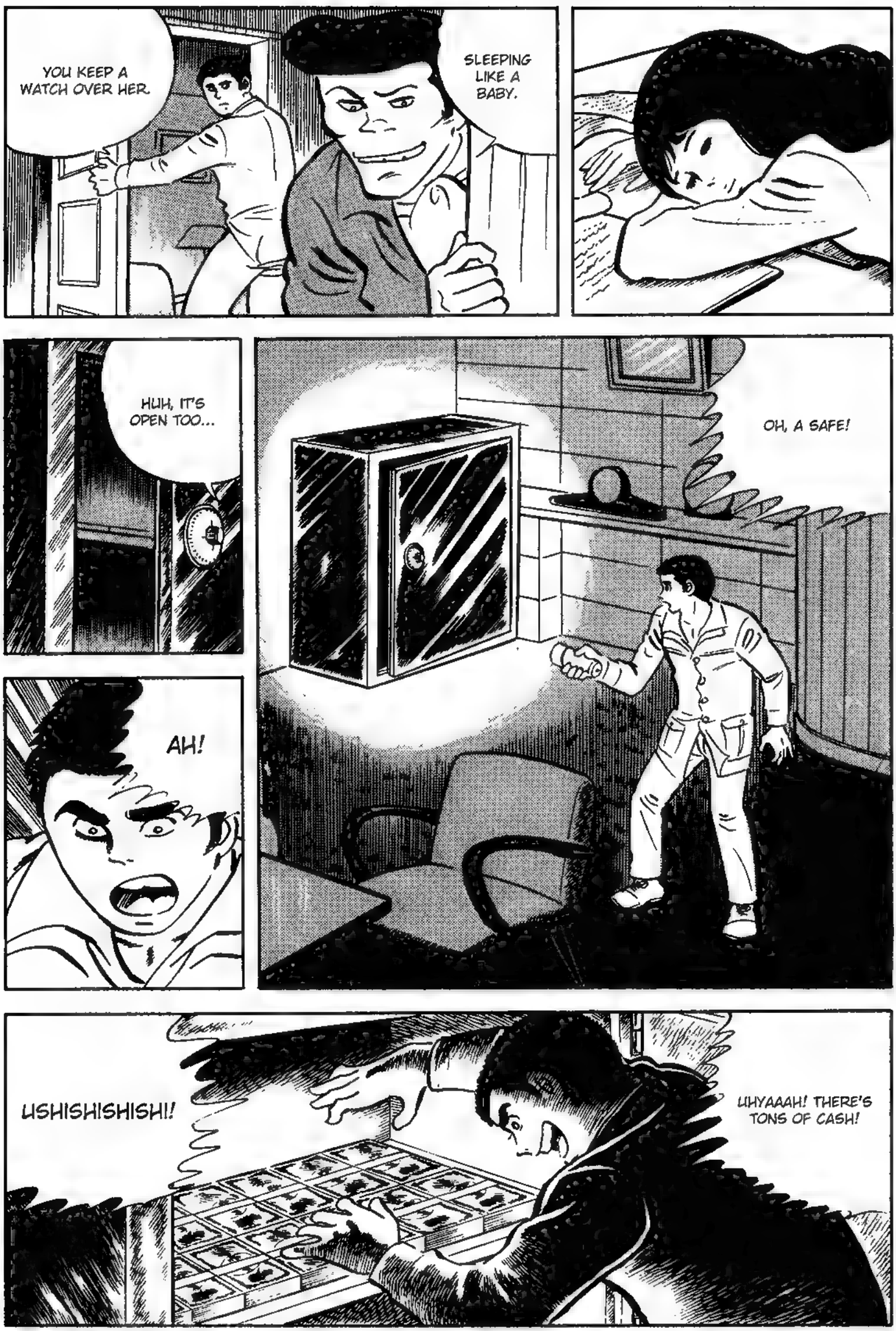
AWESOME!

FOR ME EVEN TAMING A FIERCE BEAST IS A PIECE OF CAKE.

NOW GIMME YOUR PAW, YES, YES.

COME ON NOW, WE'VE WORK TO BE DOING.
SEEMS YOU'RE SPOT ON, HE'S TOTALLY CALMED DOWN.




YOU KEEP A WATCH OVER HER.
SLEEPING LIKE A BABY.
HUH, IT'S OPEN TOO...
OH, A SAFE!
AH!
USHISHISHISH!!
UHYAAAH! THERE'S TONS OF CASH!

THIS IS WHY EVEN WHEN FREE I JUST CAN'T QUIT CRIME!
AHAHAHAHAH!
AH, THAT'S AMAZING BRO!
UGH?!
KYAAAAAGH!
TH... THIEVES...!

GOTCHA!
OI, HURRY UP AND BIND HER!
DON'T MAKE A SOUND!
THIS IS A LIL' CRUDE, BUT WE'VE NOTHING ELSE. YOU NEED TO BE QUIET FOR A BIT.
I'LL OPEN THE CAGE, JACK, SO COME AND HELP ME OUT!
BITCH, SHE'S QUICK!

UH!
UUUUH!
FUFU...
クオーン
WHAT'S THE MATTER, THIS IS NO TIME TO PLAY AROUND!
GOODNESS!

HMPH! YOU'RE EVEN YAWNING!
NO, A GUARD TIGER!
DON'T DAWDLE, YOU'RE MEANT TO BE A GUARD DOG...
LOOK, I TOLD YOU TO GET OUT OF THE CAAAAGE!
COME OOOON! CHASE OUT THOSE THIEVES!
WH... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
I COMPLETELY DOMESTICATED HIM!
ALL YOUR ORDERS ARE POINTLESS, MISS.
AHAHAHA!

キャオーン
キャオン
THAT CAN'T BE TRUE!
WELL IF THAT'S HOW IT IS, I'LL GET HIM OUT NO MATTER THE COST!
AHAHAH!

ODD. DID YOU REALLY NOT WANT TO LEAVE?
HUH, YOU LOOK PRETTY SAD.
FINALLY GOT YOU OUT OF THE CAGE.
EH?!
I GET IT NOW. LIKE THOSE THIEVES, THE MOMENT YOU FIND YOURSELF FREE YOUR OLD HABITS START TO COME OUT.
AFTER ALL, BACK IN YOUR NATIVE INDIA YOU WERE INFAMOUS AS A FRENZIED, HUMAN EATING TIGER.
GEEH, A H... HUMAN EATING TIGER?!

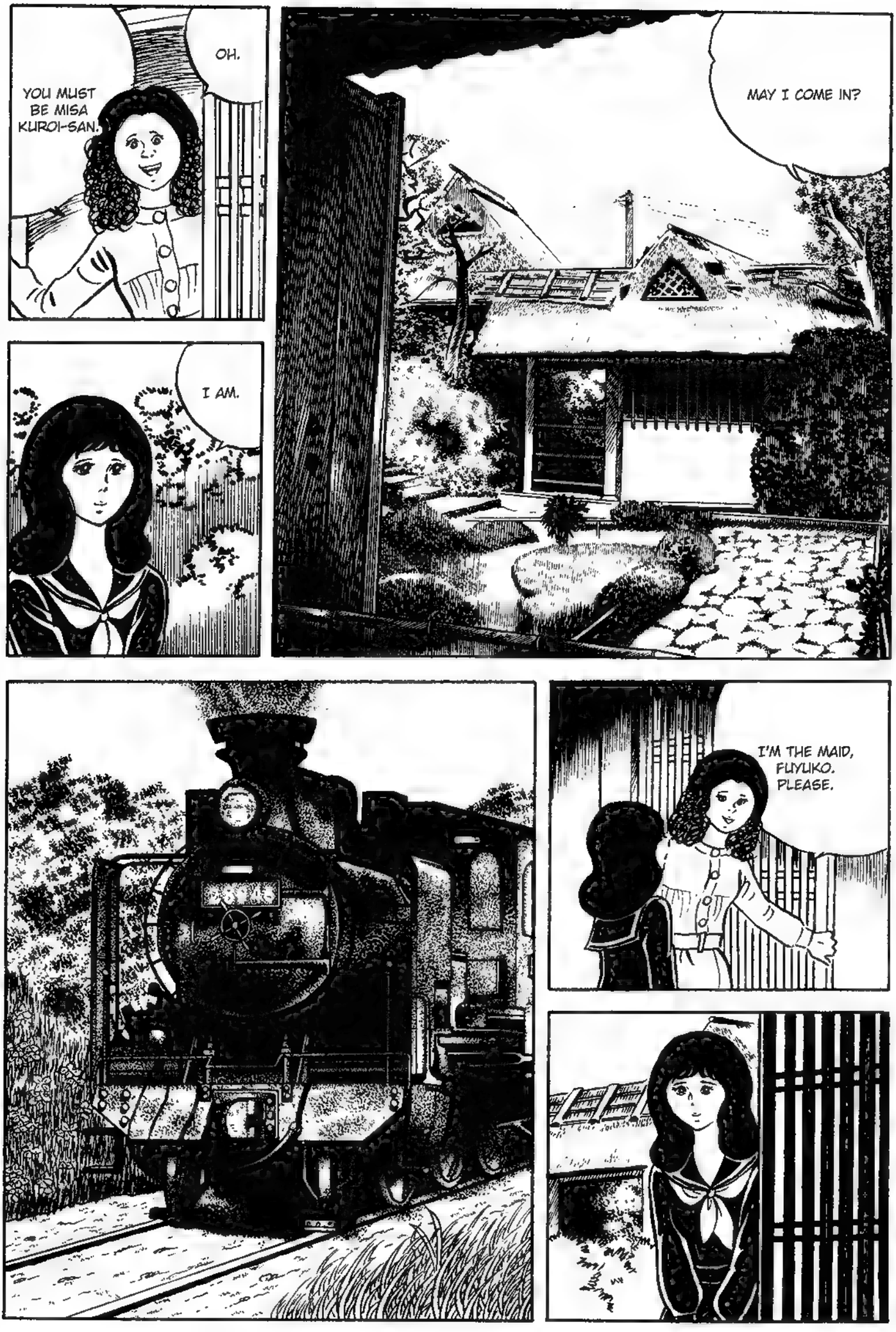
ドラ
ドラ
!!
ガブ

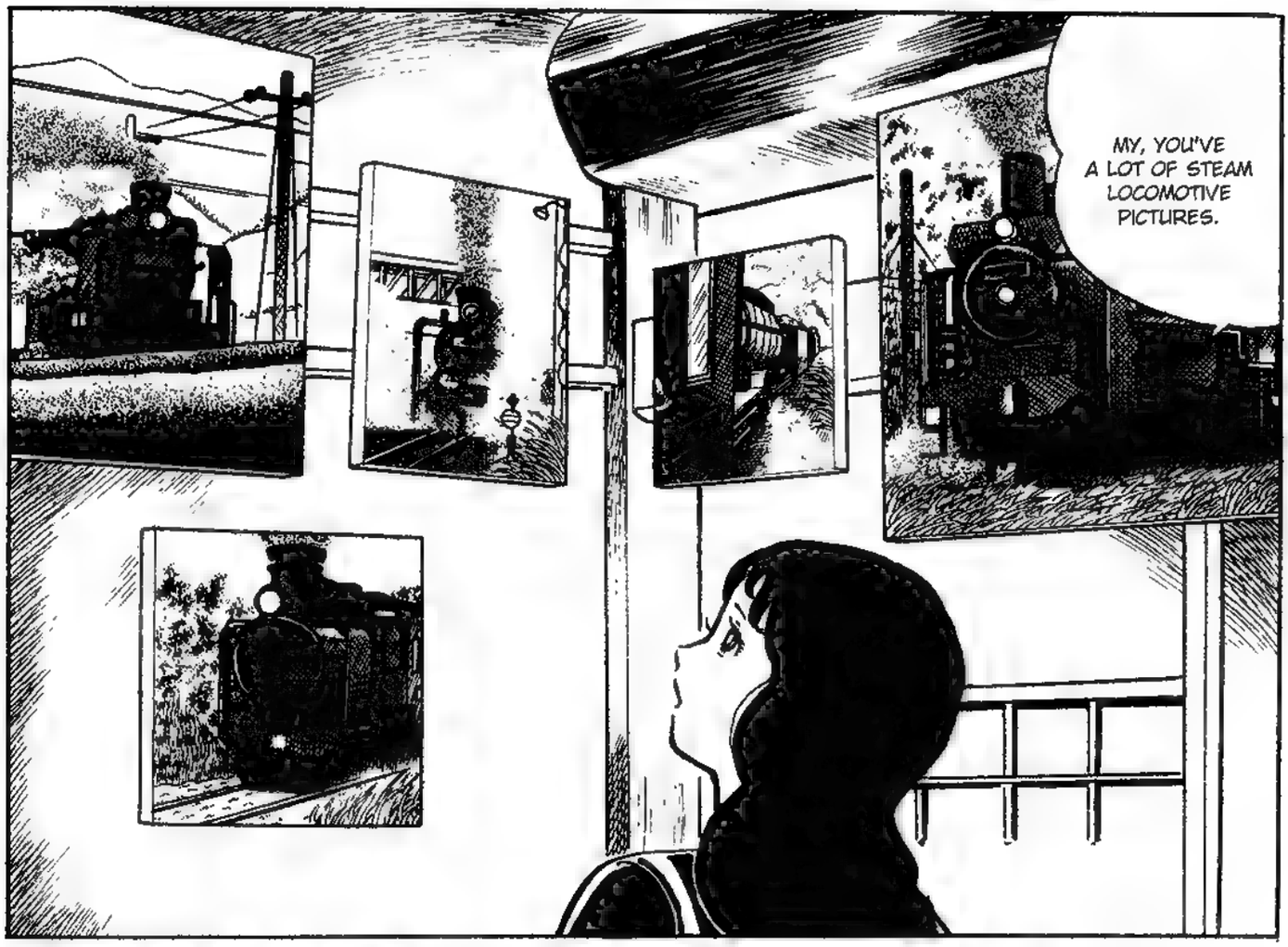
YOU WERE WARY OF FREEDOM AS YOU COULD STILL REMEMBER YOUR PAST CRIMES.
YOU'RE FAR MORE ADMIRABLE THAN ANY HUMAN, JACK! OHOHOHO.

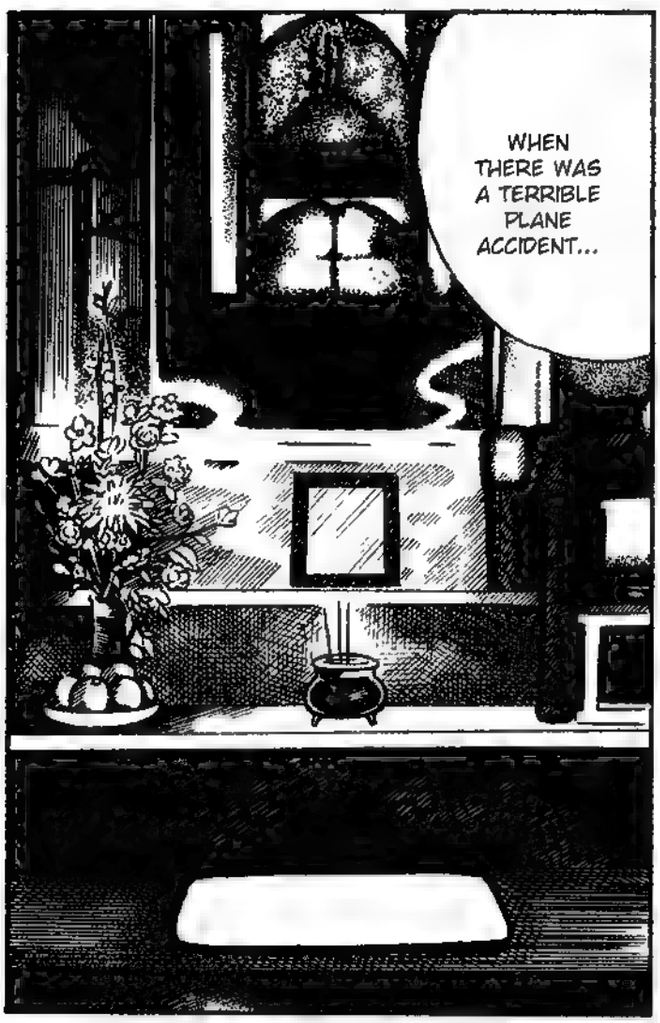
♣エコエコ　　アザラク♣

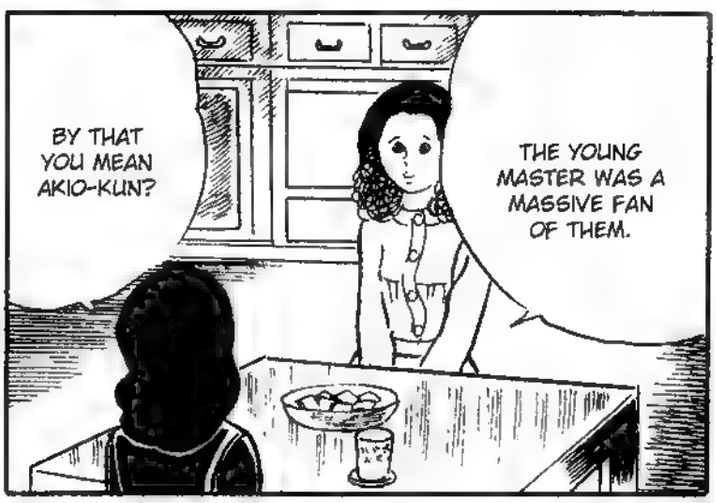
THE MOTHER AND CHILD SEEN IN
THE STEAM LOCOMOTIVE

T/N: THE SIGN READS "SEIKI".


OH.
YOU MUST BE MISA KUROI-SAN.
I AM.
MAY I COME IN?
I'M THE MAID, FUYUKO. PLEASE.


MY, YOU'VE A LOT OF STEAM LOCOMOTIVE PICTURES.

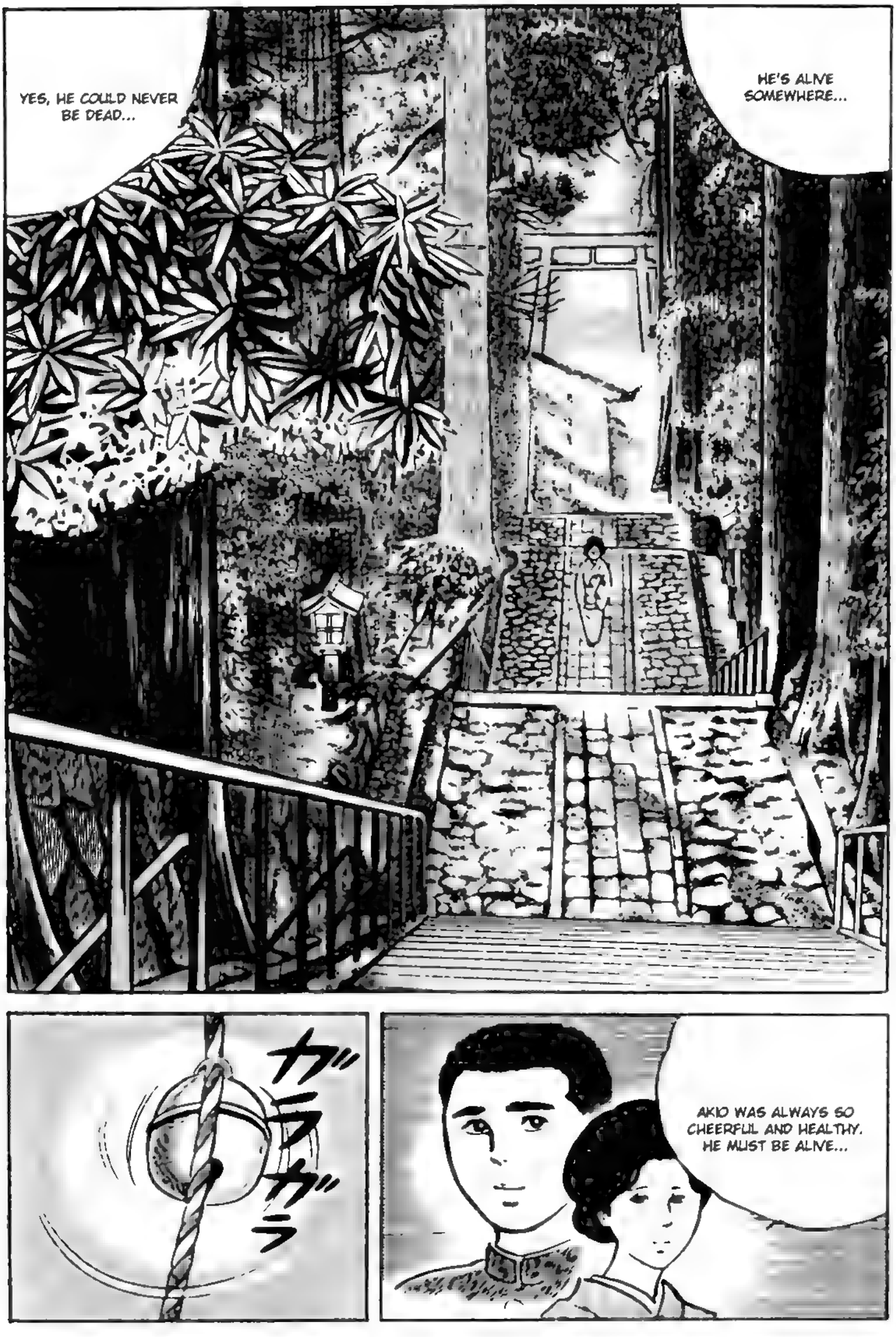

WHEN THERE WAS A TERRIBLE PLANE ACCIDENT...

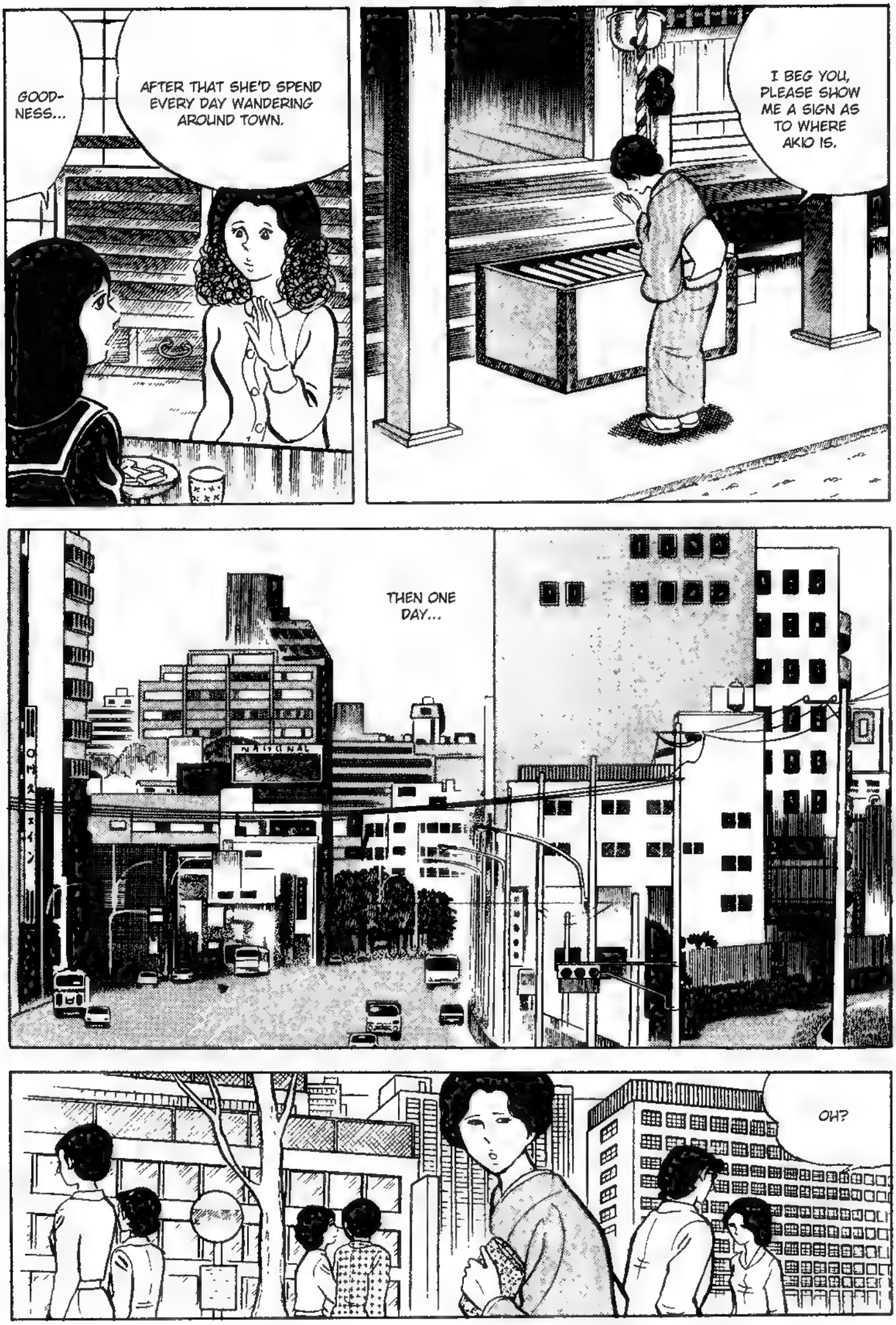

BY THAT YOU MEAN AKIO-KUN?
THE YOUNG MASTER WAS A MASSIVE FAN OF THEM.

YES. BACK THEN STEAM LOCOMOTIVES HAD MORE OR LESS DISAPPEARED, AND HE'D TAKEN A BREAK FROM SCHOOL TO GO TO HOKKAIDO...

I READ ABOUT THAT IN THE PAPER.
THEY FOUND THE MACHINE IN PIECES. BUT NOT AKIO-SAN'S BODY.
CORRECT.
AM I RIGHT TO SAY THAT HIS MOTHER STILL BELIEVES HE'S ALIVE?
SO MUCH SO SHE'D SPEND EVERY DAY CRYING BEFORE THE ALTAR.
HE WAS HER ONLY SON, SO SHE SEEMED INCREDIBLY AFFECTED BY IT ALL.

UUUUH...
HURRY UP AND COME BACK, AKIO...
YOU NEED TO EAT SOMETHING ONCE IN A WHILE MA'AM ELSE YOUR STRENGTH WILL DRAIN AWAY.
MA'AM!
OH, WHERE TO?
I'M JUST POPPING OUT FUYUKO-SAN.

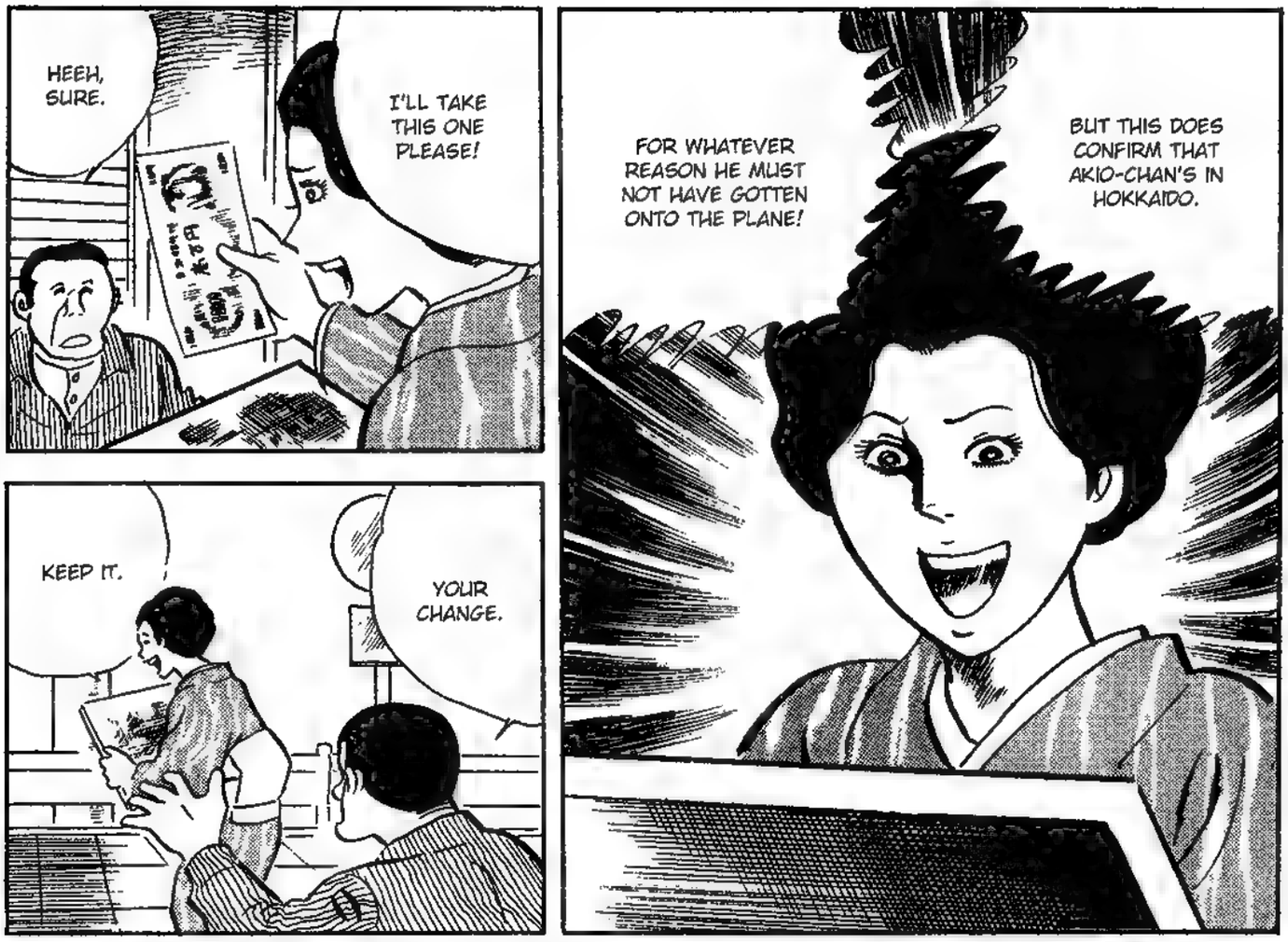

YES, HE COULD NEVER BE DEAD...
HE'S ALIVE SOMEWHERE...
カラカラ
AKIO WAS ALWAYS SO CHEERFUL AND HEALTHY. HE MUST BE ALIVE...


GOOD-NESS...
AFTER THAT SHE'D SPEND EVERY DAY WANDERING AROUND TOWN.
I BEG YOU, PLEASE SHOW ME A SIGN AS TO WHERE AKIO IS.
THEN ONE DAY...
NATIONAL
OH?

IS THAT AKIO...
A... AKIO-CHAN!
THERE'S NO MISTAKE, IT'S THAT BOY!
HAH?
?!

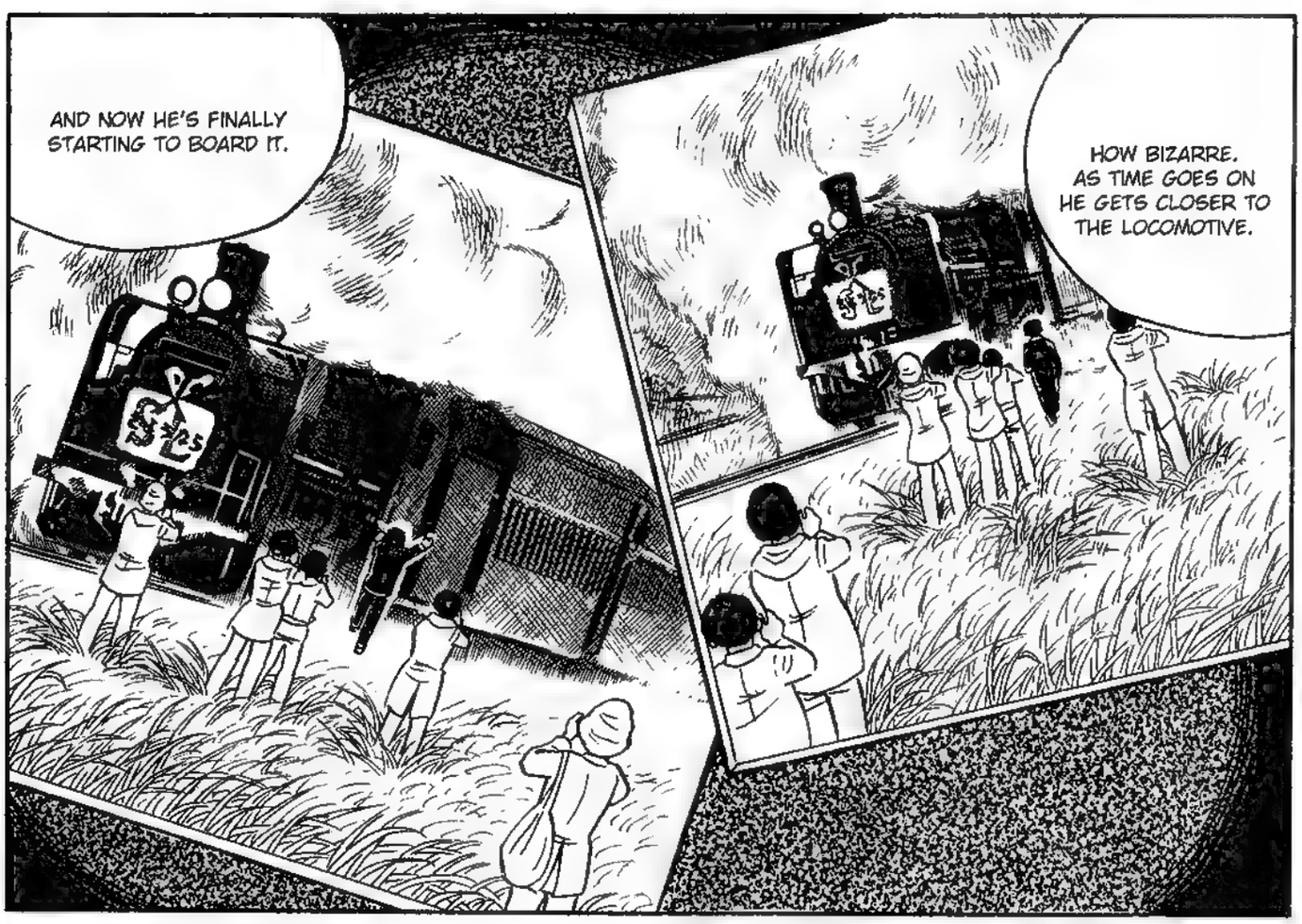
THAT'S A PHOTO OF THE FINAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE WHICH RAN IN HOKKAIDO.
AH!
HOW'S ABOUT IT, I'LL GIVE YOU A LOW PRICE TOO.
YOU'RE PRETTY SMART, MADAME.
THIS BOY WITH HIS BACK TO THE CAMERA HAS GOT TO BE AKIO!

KUAH!
A...
AKIO-CHAN!
OH, ODD...
NO WAY.
THE PHOTO MOVED.
WHAT'S WRONG, MADAME?


HEEH, SURE.
I'LL TAKE THIS ONE PLEASE!
FOR WHATEVER REASON HE MUST NOT HAVE GOTTEN ONTO THE PLANE!
BUT THIS DOES CONFIRM THAT AKIO-CHAN'S IN HOKKAIDO.
KEEP IT.
YOUR CHANGE.
OH!
PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THIS, FUYUKO-SAN.
THAT DAY SHE SEEMED AWFULLY CHEERFUL.
AKIO'S MOVED AGAIN!

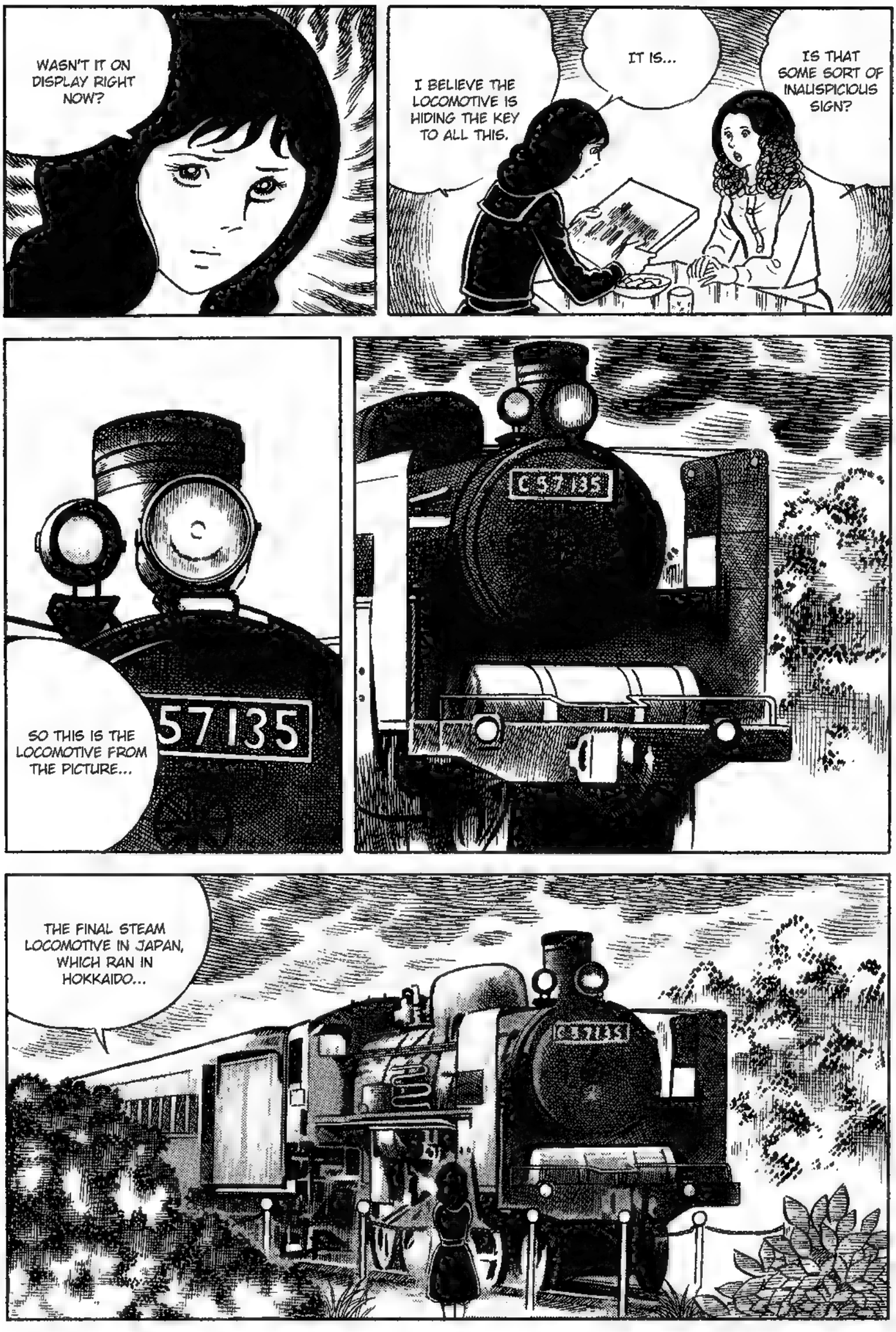
LOOK! HIS BODY'S SMALLER THAN IT WAS BEFORE.

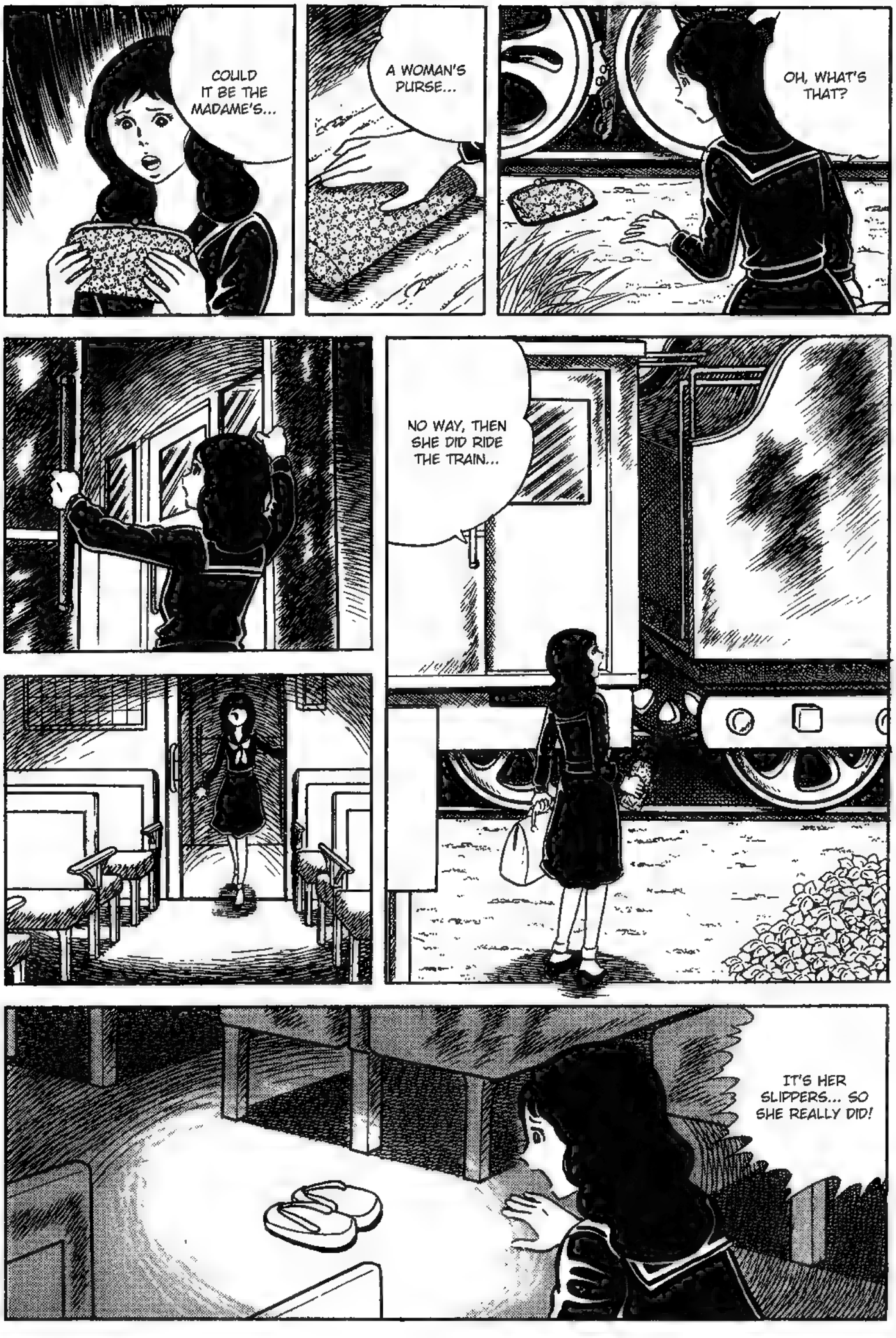
IT'S TRUE, TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE PHOTOS.
NOT AT ALL. YOUR EYES ARE PLAYING TRICKS ON YOU, MA'AM.

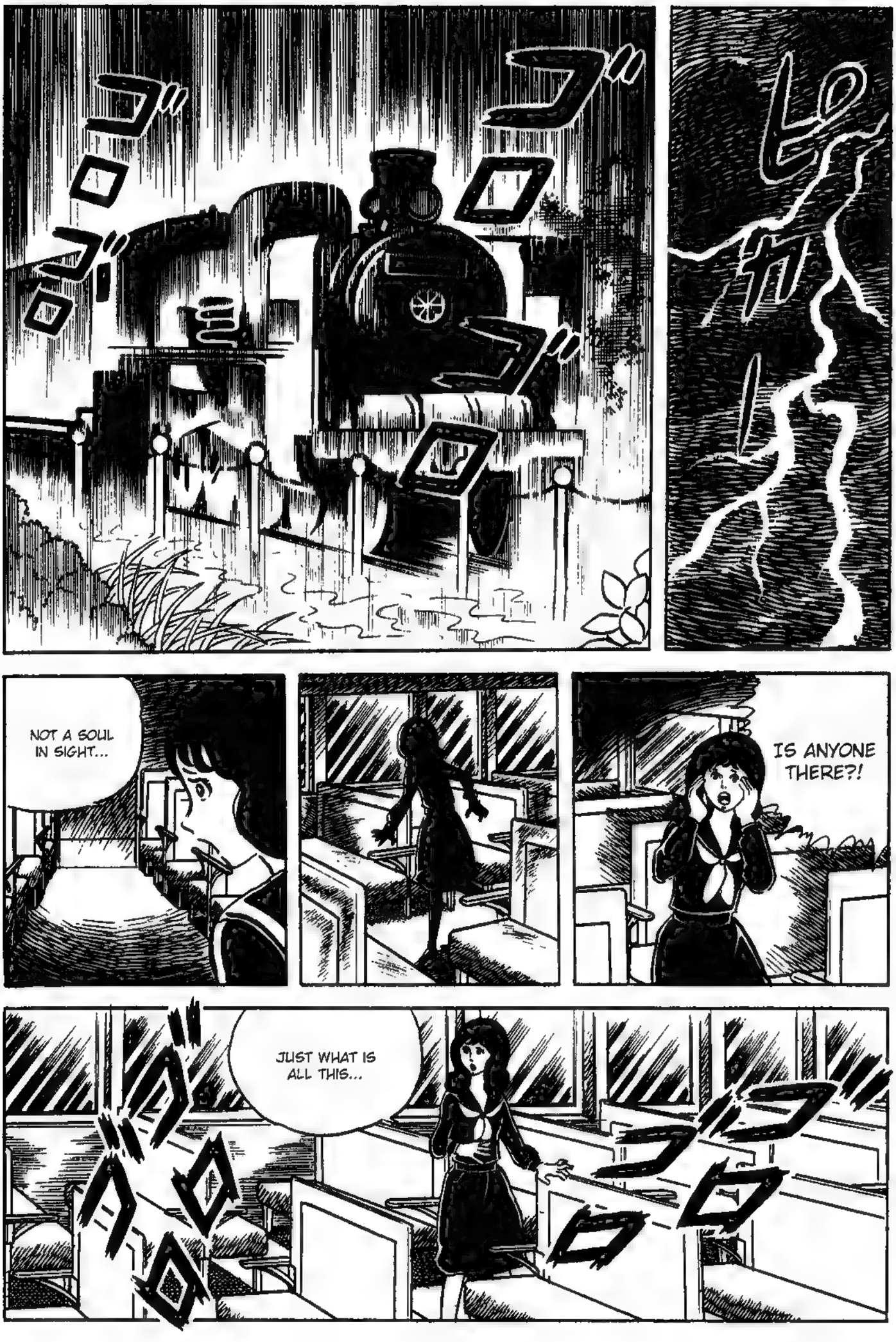

AND NOW HE'S FINALLY STARTING TO BOARD IT.
HOW BIZARRE. AS TIME GOES ON HE GETS CLOSER TO THE LOCOMOTIVE.

THE BOY WHO RESEMBLES AKIO-SAN HAS COMPLETELY VANISHED...
THAT IS, HE BOARDED THE TRAIN.
OH BUT IT IS, I SAW IT. PLEASE TAKE A LOOK...
THAT CANT BE TRUE!
COME TO THINK OF IT MY HEAD DOES HURT A BIT.
MM. YOU MIGHT BE BROODING TOO MUCH OVER AKIO-SAN AND HIS DISAPPEARANCE.
SO YOU THINK BOTH I AND THE MADAME ARE SEEING THINGS?
OR HE MIGHT JUST NOT HAVE BEEN IN THE PHOTO FROM THE OUTSET?
UNDERSTOOD. I'LL LOOK INTO IT WITH MY CRYSTAL BALL.
I'M STARTING TO WORRY AS I ASKED THE POLICE TO LOOK FOR HER, BUT HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANYTHING BACK...
STILL, I CALLED FOR YOU BECAUSE THE MADAME VANISHED THAT DAY, AND HAS NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE...

AH!
EKO EKO AZARAK...
EKO EKO AZARAK...
WHAT IN THE WORLD...?
NOTHING'S SHOWING ON THE CRYSTAL BALL...
WH... WHAT MIGHT IT BE?


WASN'T IT ON DISPLAY RIGHT NOW?
I BELIEVE THE LOCOMOTIVE IS HIDING THE KEY TO ALL THIS.
IT IS...
IS THAT SOME SORT OF INAUSPICIOUS SIGN?
57135
SO THIS IS THE LOCOMOTIVE FROM THE PICTURE...
C57135
THE FINAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE IN JAPAN, WHICH RAN IN HOKKAIDO...
C57135


COULD IT BE THE MADAME'S...
A WOMAN'S PURSE...
OH, WHAT'S THAT?
NO WAY, THEN SHE DID RIDE THE TRAIN...
IT'S HER SLIPPERS... SO SHE REALLY DID!


ゴゴゴゴゴ
ピカ!
NOT A SOUL IN SIGHT...
IS ANYONE THERE?!
JUST WHAT IS ALL THIS...
ゴゴゴゴゴ

GOODNESS, THE RAIN'S REALLY COMING DOWN NOW.
?!
ガタン
THIS IS A PAIN.
DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT'S STOPPING ANYTIME SOON...
AH!
WH... WHAT'S THAT SOUND?!
ガタンガタン

THE TRAIN'S MOVING!
IMPOSSIBLE, THIS MUST BE AN ILLUSION.
IT WAS ON DISPLAY, THERE'S NO WAY IT COULD START UP!

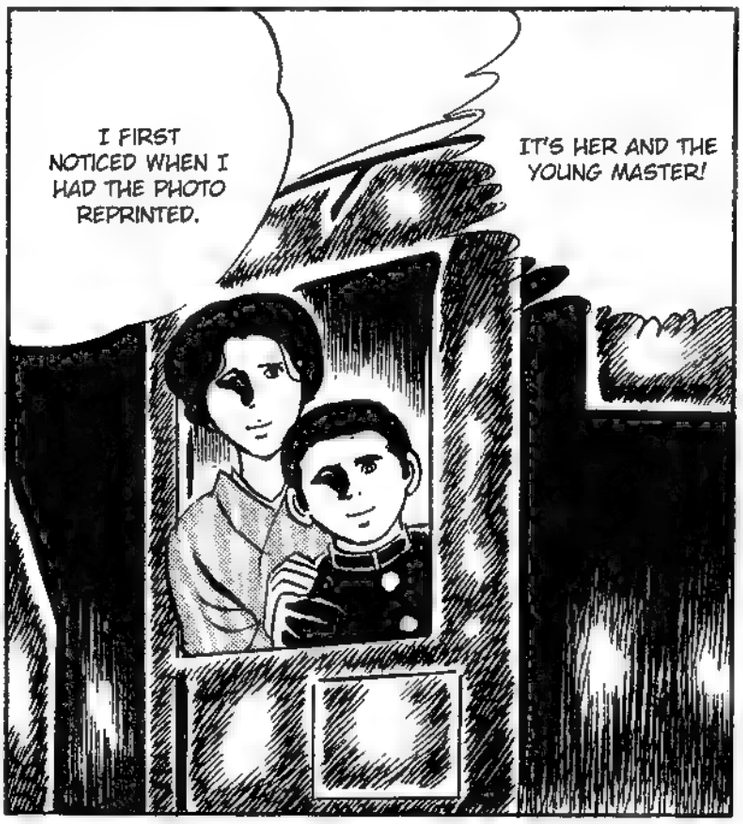
THIS IS THE LOCAL TRAIN FOR IWAMIZAWA.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PATRONAGE, WE HOPE YOU FULLY ENJOY YOUR TIME ON JAPAN'S LAST STEAM LOCOMOTIVE.
THE VOICE COMING FROM THE SPEAKERS IS A BOY'S!
WE SHALL BE STOPPING AT THE FOLLOWING STATIONS: BOKOI, MISAKI, WANISHI AND HIGASHIMURORAN.
NEXT WE SHALL SHOW YOU AROUND THE "FAREWELL LOCOMOTIVE".
IT CAN'T BE, IS THIS AKIO-KUN, WHO WAS MEANT TO HAVE VANISHED...?!

I SHOULD GO AND INSPECT THE CONDUCTOR'S APARTMENT!
HERE WE ARE!
車掌室
ガラ"
N... NO ONE'S THERE!
AH!

AH!
カ!!
CORRECT.
SO IN THE END YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO FIND THE MADAME?
JUST WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?
WE'RE BACK AT THE EXHIBITION GROUNDS!
EH?!
IT'S ONE I TOOK OF THE LOCOMOTIVE AFTER.
HOWEVER, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS PHOTO, FUYUKO-SAN.

C 5713

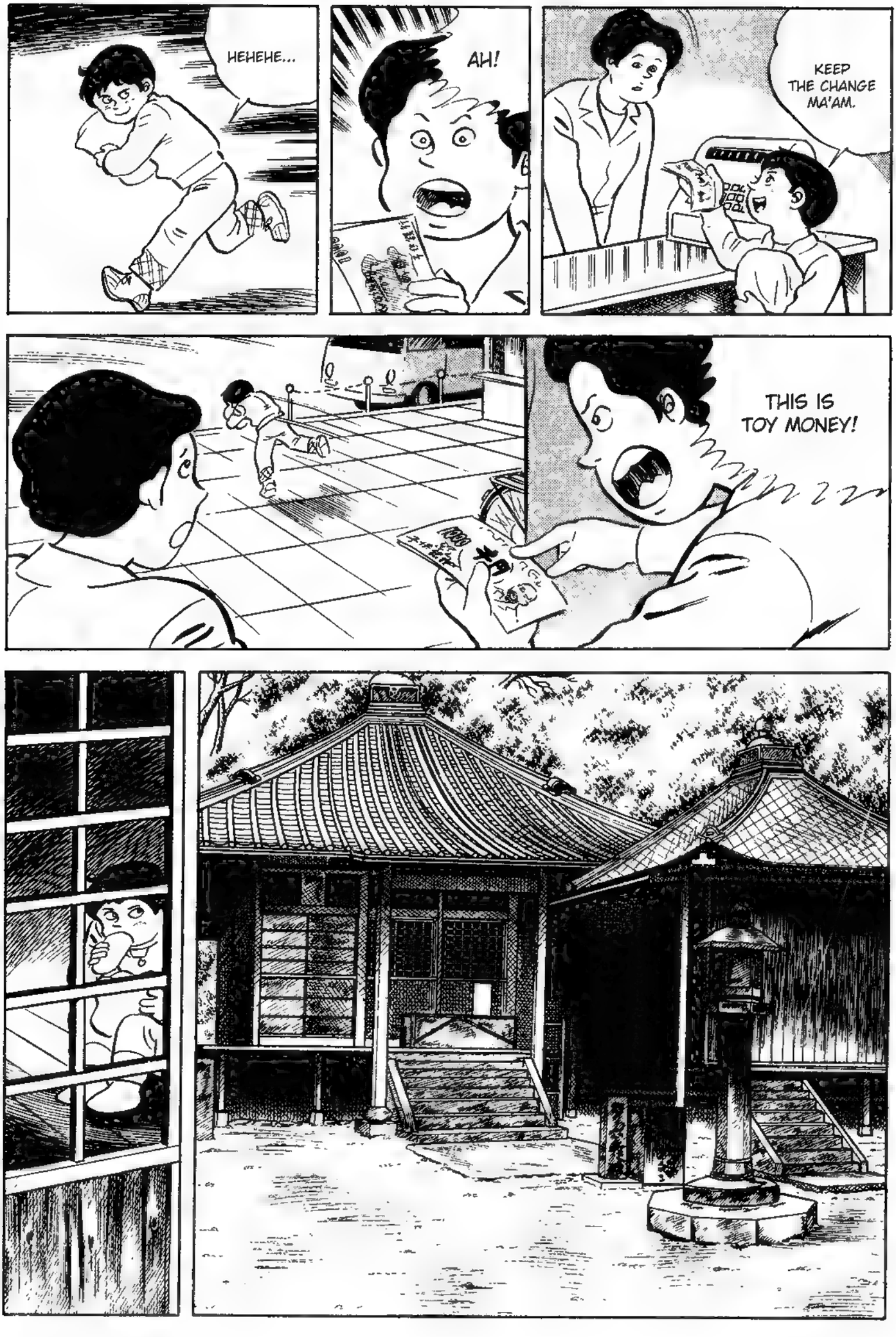
I DON'T KNOW, BUT I GET THE FEELING WE'LL NEVER SEE THE PAIR AGAIN...
JUST WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS...?!


I FIRST NOTICED WHEN I HAD THE PHOTO REPRINTED.
IT'S HER AND THE YOUNG MASTER!

♣ A RESURRECTED LOVE

ガシャン
SOMEONE'S THROWING STONES!
KYAAAAH!
YOU OKAY KUROI-SAN?
HE'S ALWAYS SMASHING STREET LIGHTS AND JUST MESSING AROUND.
AH, IT'S THAT IDIOT KID AGAIN.

カラーン
WE'D BEST GET YOU TO THE INFIRMARY RIGHT AWAY!
YOU'VE BEEN PRETTY BADLY CUT UP!
ALRIGHT, LET'S TRY THAT SUPERMARKET.
AAAAH, I'M HUNGRY...


HEHEHE...
AH!
KEEP THE CHANGE MA'AM.
THIS IS TOY MONEY!

I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN EVER APOLOGISE ENOUGH...
I COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, I'M EVER SO SORRY.
レシ レシ
HE CAME INTO SCHOOL THE OTHER DAY WITH MUDDY SHOES ON.
BUT IT WASN'T JUST WINDOW GLASS, MA'AM.
I TRULY AM SO SORRY...
MY INABILITY AS A MOTHER HAS CAUSED YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE...
OH NO, IT WAS NOTHING SERIOUS...
ENOUGH ALREADY MIYAKE-KUN.
OH THERE'S STILL MORE! SEE HE WENT INTO AN EMPTY CLASS AND...

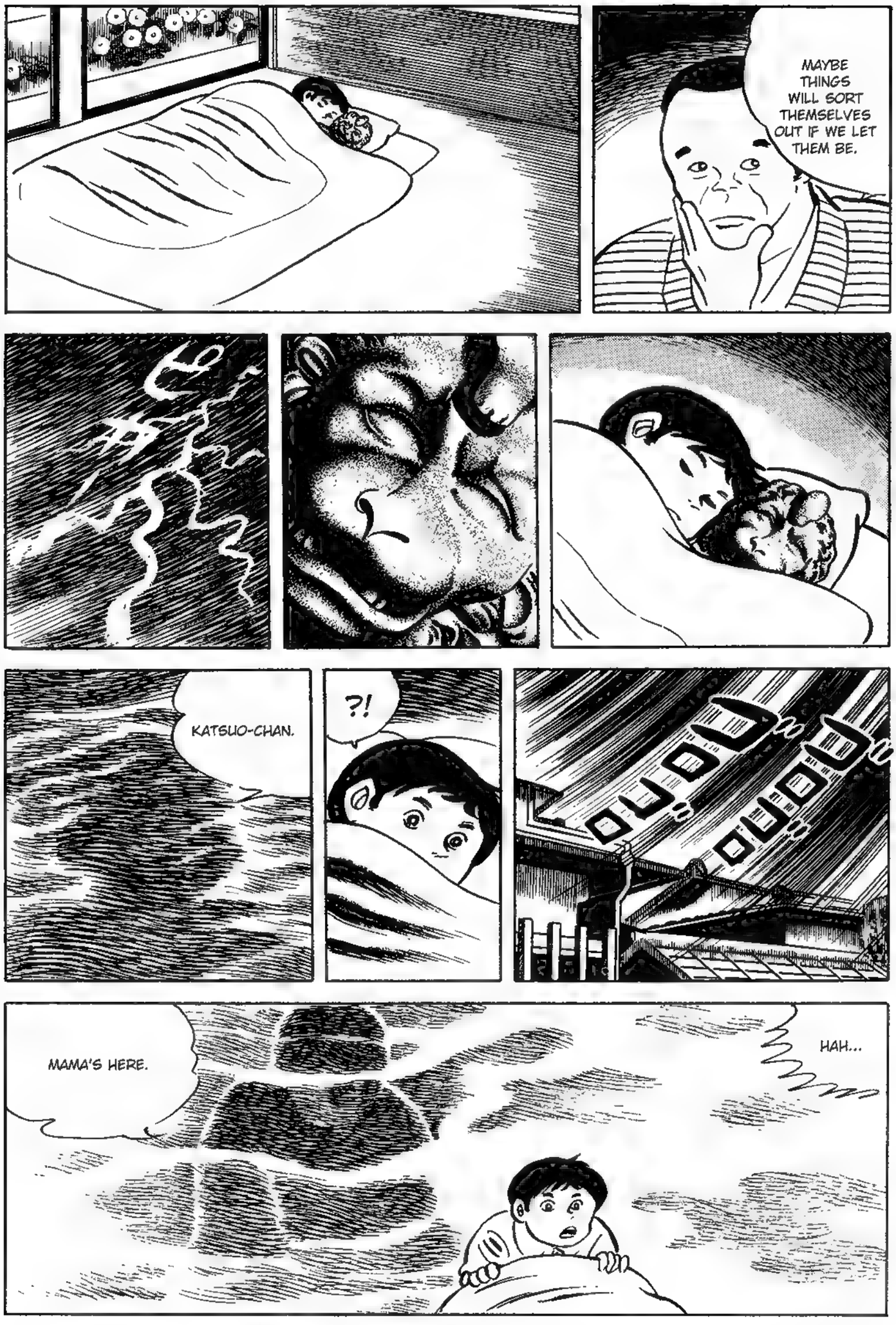
YEP. SHE SPENDS ALL DAY APOLOGISING LIKE THAT.
HIS MOTHER'S SUCH A SAD SIGHT...
I'M EVER SO SORRY, PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
LET'S GET THIS STRAIGHT. NEXT TIME HE STEALS ANYTHING I'M CALLING TO THE POLICE.
350
HE'S A REAL BOY DELINQUENT.
IT'S NOT AS THOUGH THEY'RE JUST MINOR PRANKS EITHER. AND APPARENTLY HE'LL STAY OUT MESSING AROUND INSTEAD OF GOING HOME.
YEAH, IT WAS ABOUT HALF A YEAR AGO...
VERY MUCH SO.
THEN SOMETHING CAUSED THIS...?
YOU KNOW, ORIGINALLY HE WAS A LOVELY BOY.
THE BRAT'S TOTALLY OUT OF CONTROL.

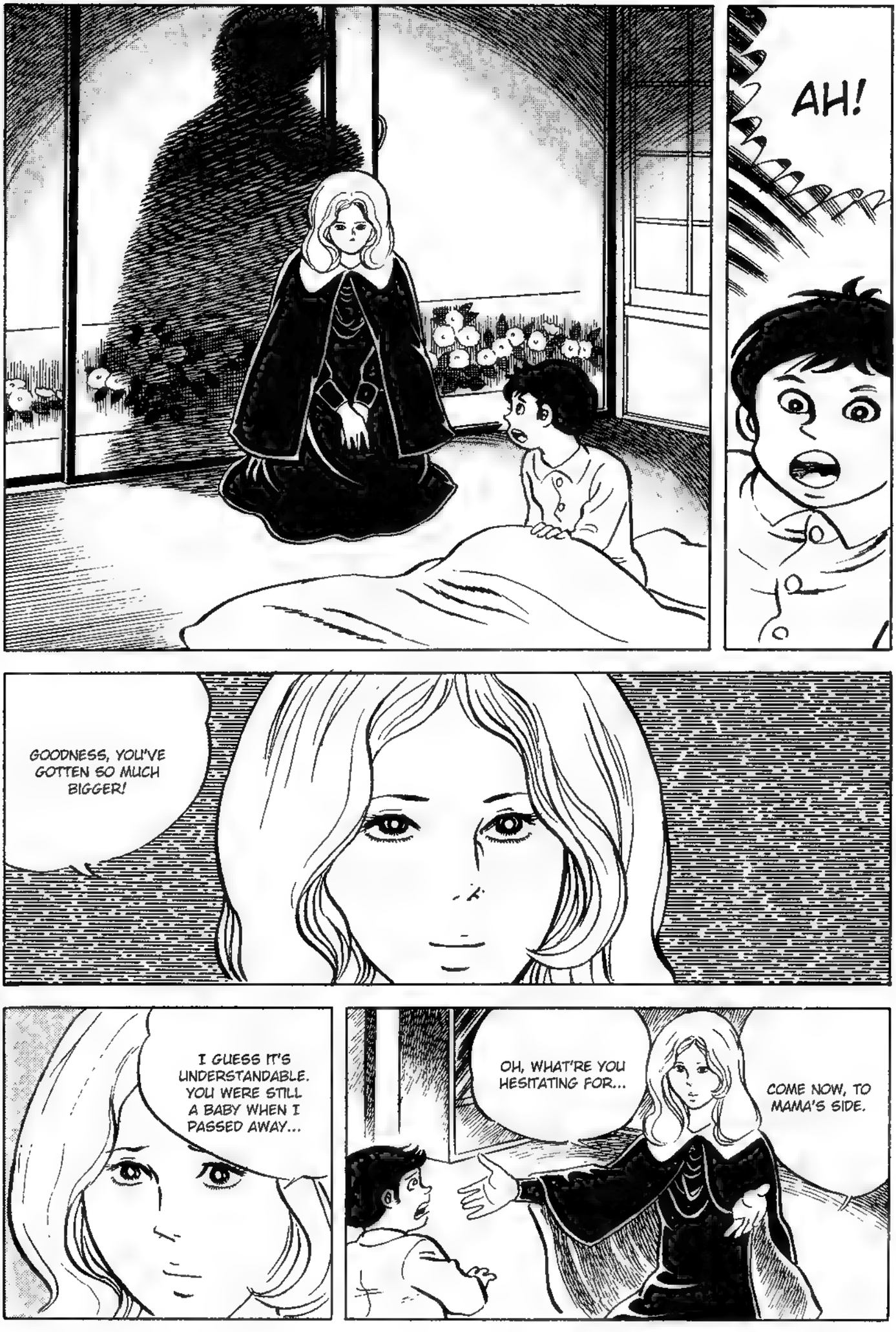
WHAT IF YOU'D CAUSED A FIRE?!
ARGH! YOU BROUGHT THE GAS STOVE AND ALL!
THE TATAMI MAT'S GOTTEN SOAKED, IT'S RUINED NOW!
WHAT ON EARTH WERE YOU PLAYING AROUND IN HERE FOR?!
TODAY MAMA'S NOT GOING TO LET YOU OFF!
HE SHOULDN'T GO HOME!
SUCH A POOR BOY, TO BE TREATED LIKE THAT.
WHAT CRUEL PUNISHMENT.
THE NEIGH-BOURS ARE AT IT AGAIN.
GOODNESS. SHE'S NOT HIS REAL MOTHER?
OH, BUT SHE'S ACTUALLY HIS STEPMOTHER.
SHE LOOKS LIKE A KIND MOTHER TOO AND YET...
あぁ〜ん

AH!
STEP... MOTHER...
HAH!
EVEN SO, SHE COULD GIVE THE BOY SOME MORE LOVE.
ダーッ
MY MUM'S... NOT...
OH MY, RAIN.
YEP. HIS BIOLOGICAL MOTHER PASSED AWAY WHILE HE WAS STILL A BABY...
HMPH... SO HE'D BELIEVED SHE WAS HIS REAL MOTHER TILL THEN.
ゴゴゴ
OH?
DOESN'T SEEM AS IF IT'LL STOP SOON.

WAKE UP BOY, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
GOODNESS, WHAT'RE YOU DOING THERE.
YOUR REAL MAMA WAS FAR NICER.
...
YOU DISLIKE YOUR CURRENT MAMA.
RIGHT.
I'M NOT GOING HOME.
IT'S PITCH BLACK OUTSIDE NOW.
SHE WAS A BEAUTIFUL, VERY KIND PERSON.
MM, I DID.
YOU KNEW HER?
EH?!
THIS IS A DEMONIC STATUE.
WH... WHAT IS THAT?
HOW ABOUT I GIVE YOU SOMETHING SO YOU CAN MEET YOUR MAMA.

DO SO AND YOUR WISH WILL BE GRANTED.
YOU MUST TO LISTEN TO WHAT I SAY. LET NO ONE SEE THIS, THEN HOLD ON TIGHT TO IT AS YOU SLEEP.
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT.
I TRULY AM A FAILURE OF A MOTHER.
YOU SHOULDN'T BLAME IT ALL ON YOURSELF YOU KNOW.
AAH, WHAT DO I DO. THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.
I MEAN, DAY AFTER DAY KATSUO JUST GROWS WORSE AND WORSE!


MAYBE THINGS WILL SORT THEMSELVES OUT IF WE LET THEM BE.
KATSUO-CHAN.
?!
MAMA'S HERE.
HAH...


AH!
GOODNESS, YOU'VE GOTTEN SO MUCH BIGGER!
I GUESS IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE. YOU WERE STILL A BABY WHEN I PASSED AWAY...
OH, WHAT'RE YOU HESITATING FOR...
COME NOW, TO MAMA'S SIDE.

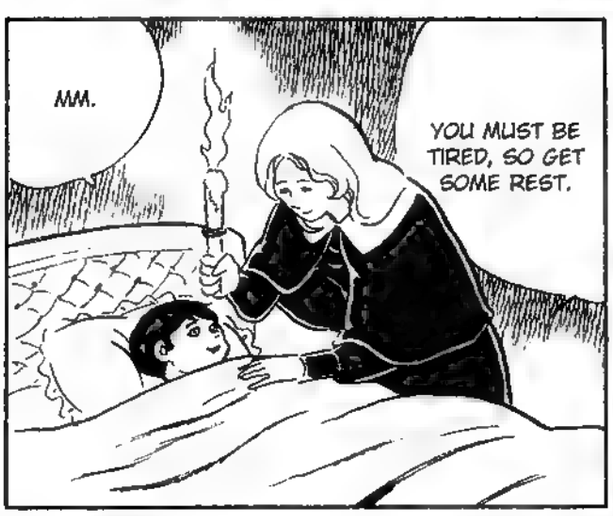
UUH... PLEASE FORGIVE YOUR MAMA.
MA... MAMA!
BUT I WON'T EVER LET YOU GO AGAIN.
HAH!
ガチャン
OH, WAS THAT A WINDOW BEING OPENED?
バタン
バタン
I'M REALLY GETTING A WORRISOME SENSE OF FOREBODING.
GOODNESS, THAT'S THREE DISHES TODAY...

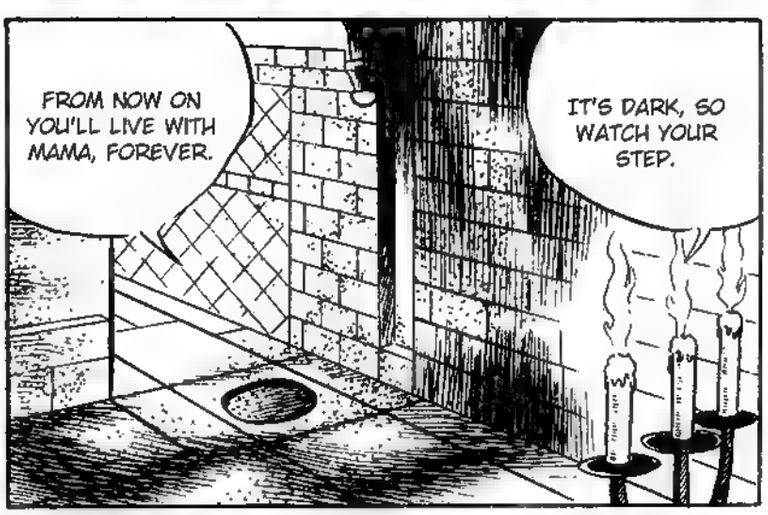
KATSUO-CHAN'S ROOM.
AH!
SOUNDS LIKE THE SECOND FLOOR.
HE'S NOT HERE!

GOODNESS, WHAT IS THIS AWFUL FEELING OF MINE.
WHERE COULD HE HAVE GONE AMIDST THIS STORM.
KATSUO-CHAN!
KATSUO-CHAN!
I FEEL LIKE HE'LL NEVER RETURN HOME AGAIN...
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
AAH!
KATSUOOOO!
UUUUUUUH!
PLEASE KATSUO-CHAN, COME HOME.
NO, IT REALLY FEELS THAT WAY.
DON'T TALK SUCH NONSENSE!

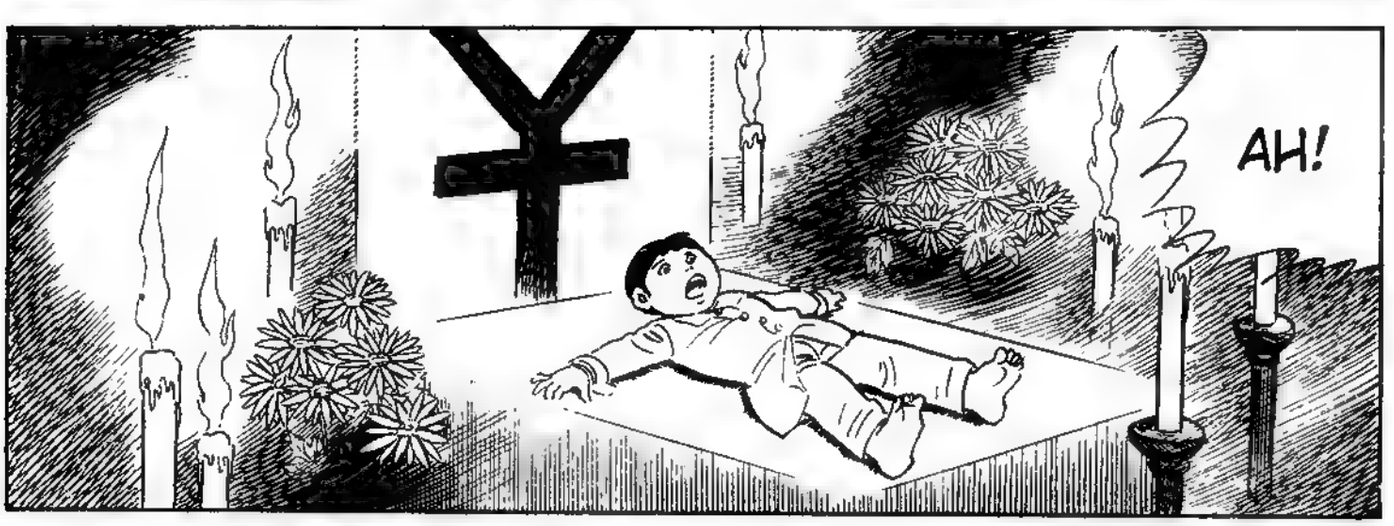
IS YOUR HOUSE FAR AWAY, MAMA.

WE'LL BE THERE SOON. LOOK, WE'VE ARRIVED, IT'S THAT CASTLE.

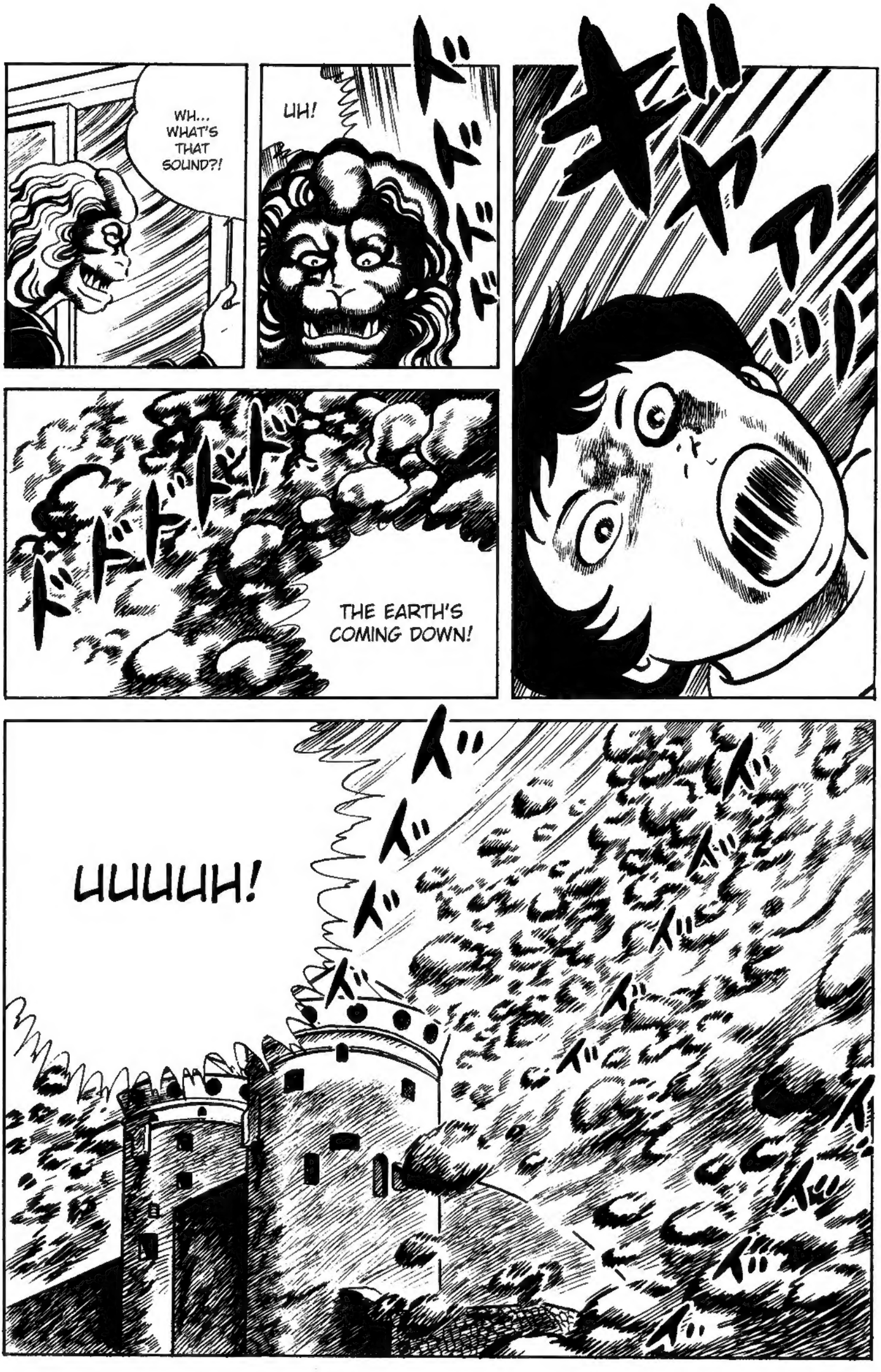

MM.
YOU MUST BE TIRED, SO GET SOME REST.


FROM NOW ON YOU'LL LIVE WITH MAMA, FOREVER.
IT'S DARK, SO WATCH YOUR STEP.

?!
EXCITY ON EREONA ONERA...


AH!

FUFUFU.
I'M A DEMON WHO LOVES THE BLOOD OF CHILDREN!
SO YOU FINALLY NOTICED, FUFUFU...
D... DEMOOOON!
UUUUUUAAAH!


WH... WHAT'S THAT SOUND?!
UH!
ドドドド
THE EARTH'S COMING DOWN!
UUUUH!

ギャア!
SO I DECIDED TO BURY IT IN THE GARDEN.
I HAD A NASTY FEELING ABOUT THE ODD STATUE IN YOUR ROOM.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
OH MY, KATSUO!

S... SO YOU SAVED ME MAMA!
!
I SORT OF FELT THAT, WERE I TO BURY IT, YOU'D COME BACK, KATSUO-CHAN.
YOU KNOW ITS STRANGE.
MAMAAAA!
EH...?!
MAMA WON'T EVER LET YOU GO AGAIN!
KATSUO-CHAN!
AND KATSUO-CHAN COULD FIND HAPPINESS...
I'M GLAD THINGS WENT WELL...